

Klu Klux Klan - 1930

## New Year's K.K.K. Greeting in Ala.

Poster Sets Forth Program to Transport All Negroes Elsewhere

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 6 (ANP).—Posters setting forth a new program for the South and urging "The South for Southerners Only" have appeared on trees, telegraph posts and in public places in Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi and have created much interest as well as amusement.

These posters, facetiously dubbed "A New Year's Greeting" and "officially" headed "SECESSION, with outside support and Booth's Ku Klux Klan," set forth the following program: "Confiscate all property, paying Southerners tax-assessed value in fifty years."

"Transport Negroes elsewhere, giving them one-fourth movable property."

"Two thousand communities in the South with 10,000 people and 175,000 acres each."

"Farms and industries management similar to the War Dept., P. O., R. R., etc., by central committee of Montgomery."

"Transporting convoys of machines for mills and farms from Maryland to Florida, Missouri to Texas, and Kentucky to Alabama, and back again, staying near a week at each reservation, accomplishing more with less effort."

"Work seven hours a day for an average of \$7 a day."

"Labor checks instead of money."

"Each colony as near self-supporting as possible."

"The South having nothing to import or export."

"SEND \$5 FOR YOUR CHARTER AND START A KLAVERN IN YOUR COMMUNITY ON A COMMISSION BASIS."

"LEANDA CALDWELL, Montgomery, Ala."

## Bolters Review Outlook After Heflox Failure

## Meeting At Birmingham Was Not Attended By State Leaders Klan Still Active May Trot Out Two New Candidates

By ATTICUS MULLIN

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Jan. 5.—Bolt- ing leaders who hoped to profit by their desertion of the Democratic party in the presidential campaign of 1928 spent Saturday here taking stock of their situation following what was generally regarded as a "black frost" for their much-heralded Birmingham public meeting Friday night.

The 3,000 or more friends of the bolt- ing leaders who flocked into the Birm- ingham Municipal Auditorium Friday night and touched elbows with 2,000 Democrats and curiosity-seekers who also attended, left the auditorium after hav- ing seen their idols crumble before their very eyes.

### "Hesitating Heflin"

The bolters had gone to the audi- torium expecting blood and thunder and they saw a hesitating Heflin and a lost Locke armed with nothing more than cotton balls which were cast about with apparently no in- tentions of really injuring anybody. It was made clear, even to the bolters themselves, that Heflin and Locke saw the handwriting on the wall and that their only hope to perpetuate the hold of the Ku Klux Klan on Alabama rested with the State Dem- ocratic Committee the members of which, they hope, will rescind their reaction and allow the bolters to come in.

And it was apparent to all that neither Heflin nor Locke have much hope that the Democracy of Alabama will hoist the white flag and completely surrender to them. Those who watch politics close- ly are almost unanimous in the opinion that neither Heflin nor Locke will make the race for U. S. Senator and Govern- or respectively on an independent or Republican ticket.

H. L. Anderton, Birmingham lawyer and one of the leaders of the bolters in 1928, cast the first wet blanket over the Heflox meeting in Birmingham when his statement appeared across the pages of the two Birmingham papers early Fri- day afternoon saying he did not intend to bolt again and would come back into the Democratic ranks and put his should- er to the wheel for the Democratic ticket. And following this, a scrutiny of the au- dience in the auditorium and of those in

the hotel lobbies before the meeting failed to reveal the real leaders of the anti-Smith movement in Alabama in 1928. The absence of political leaders from the meeting, coupled with the state- ment of Anderton, turned what would no doubt have been a light frost into a black and killing frost.

There were many conferences of bol- ters in Birmingham Saturday following the meeting and all sorts of rumors could be heard on the streets as to the result of the conference.

One rumor which received wide- spread circulation was that Locke was to be thrown to the wolves in the hope that the committee would rescind its action so far as Heflin was concerned and merely bar those who actually voted the Republican ticket in 1928 from becoming candi- dates in the primary. Locke voted the Republican ticket while Heflin failed to vote at all, where the presi- dency and vice presidency were con- cerned.

Another rumor had it that it was the purpose of Jim Esdale, grand dragon of the Klan in Alabama, to shelve both Heflin and Locke and trot out new candi- dates for Senator and Governor who would be satisfactory to the Klan and at the same time who could qualify un- der the state committee rules.

That there was great confusion in the ranks of the bolters was easily seen. Bolt- ing leaders could be seen during the day going into the First National Bank Building. In that building is housed the office of Jim Esdale, Horace Wilkinson, and others who bolted in 1928. And it was an unhappy bunch of politicians who trooped into that building during the morning. Defeat was written in the faces of every man of them and there was an air of decided dejection.

### Attack Advertiser

One of the amusing features of the Heflox meeting Friday night was the at- tacks made by both Heflin and Locke on The Montgomery Advertiser. It ap- peared that when things began to drag the speakers expected to "whoop 'em up" by 'cussin' The Montgomery Advertiser. Their sallies evoked laughter and consid- erable applause.

That an attempt of a really serious nature will be made to get the state committee into session again with the hope that it will surrender and allow the bolters to run, seemed certain Saturday and Sunday. Efforts will be made to se- cure signatures of committee members to a petition to Chairman Pettus to call the committee together once more. That such an effort is certain was made ap- parent with the appearance of Gaston Scott in the lobby of the Tutwiler Hotel.

Mr. Scott held several conferences. He was the leader who met defeat in his efforts to prevent the committee from barring bolters at its session in Mont- gomery. That Mr. Scott entertains little hope for a successful effort to get the committee to rescind was evident to ev- erybody. He appeared almost as deject- ed as Heflin and Locke and as unhappy as Committeeman Ben Ray, who presid- ed over the Heflox meeting.

A political prediction at this stage of the political fight in Alabama may see

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entirely out of place, but the writer will inject one to the effect that there will be no bolers ticket in Alabama in 1930.

## Klan Tells How High Court Can Drop Party Bar Suggests Justices Sayre And Bouldin Recuse Themselves

## K. K. K. Hopeful Would Relieve Candidate Of Making Decision

By ATTICUS MULLIN

High hopes that the Alabama Su- preme Court will upset the Democratic party's governing tribunal, the state committee, are not only held by the Alabama Ku Klux Klan but suggestions to certain members of the court are con- tained in a recent proclamation issued by W. Earl Hotalen, president of the Jef- ferson County Klan Association.

The klan suggests that Associate Jus- tices Bouldin and Sayre recuse them- selves leaving five members of the high court to pass upon the committee action and if four of these five members can- not agree on a decision, the Governor ap- point two men to sit with them. The Supreme Court is soon to receive argu- ments on the appeal of H. C. Wilkinson from the suit he lost in Birmingham.

So far as is known this is the first time that the klan has dipped into the affairs of the highest tribunal in Ala- bama, the Supreme Court.

After outlining a procedure "that would be wise for the Supreme Court to follow," the Klan proclamation issued by Hotalen suggests that if they cannot get bolters into the Democratic primary as candidates, that Klansmen disregard "foolish talk about party regularity," the suggestion being that they bolt again.

### "Call To Arms"

In the Hotalen proclamation and un- der the heading "Call To Arms" and dealing with the case wherein the Su- preme Court will pass upon the action of the state committee, the following words are used:

"It is not yet known when the Su- preme Court will hear the matter but a great delay is anticipated. Two members of the Supreme Court, Justices Sayre and Bouldin, will be candidates for re- election in the forthcoming primary themselves. It is fortunate for them that they can recuse themselves from hearing

this appeal as whatever decision they would make would meet them again in the primary with perhaps fifty per cent of the voters unsatisfied with it. Assum- ing that they will recuse themselves as generally expected, five justices are left to hear the appeal brought by Judge Wilkinson. The law requires that four justices must concur in an opinion. If four of these five justices are unable to agree it would devolve upon Gov. Graves to appoint special justices to enable the court to render a decision concurred in by four of its members. No one can pre- dict what the decision of the Supreme Court is likely to be but certain it is that the vast majority of the good citi- zens of Alabama are hoping that Judge Wilkinson's petition may be sustained."

Following the discussion of Supreme Court action and suggestions to the court as to individual action, the Klan procla- mation takes up the cause of Senator J. Thomas Heflin and makes a plea to all Klansmen to support him. And then the suggestion is made that party regularity is a foolish thing where Senator Heflin is concerned. The following words are used in the proclamation in this connection and under the same heading "Call To Arms":

### "Twentieth Century Patriot"

"Alabama owes a solemn and patriotic debt to the whole nation. Alabama must pay that debt by returning the great Patriot of the Twentieth Century to the Senate. This is no time for foolish talk about regularity, about irrelevant issues, or about personalities. The life of this nation is involved in the principle for which Senator Heflin and his compatri- ots contend. Hated and despised forever by all true Americans will be the memory of those gullible, foolish, un- stable, thoughtless, unpatriotic, politically greedy, easily bought-and-sold politicians and voters who betray Alabama into the hands and control of her bitterest enemies if they succeeded in so betraying it this year."

Capping the climax of the "Call To Arms" section of the Klan proclamation are these warlike words to the Klan:

"Before the end of March Klankraft will be in front line trenches, firing its guns, and facing its foes in glorious bat- tle. Political skirmishes have featured the news thus far and our enemy has been making the most noise. But the real battle has not started yet. Our sol- diery have not gone into action. We are yet maneuvering for position; we are yet placing our troops and assembling our ammunition and machinery for war."

### CASE DUE SOON

With the reconvening in regular ses- sion Monday, of both the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of Alabama, pros- pects are that the Supreme Court will hear and take under consideration at an early date, appeal in the case represent- ing action by Horace C. Wilkinson of Birmingham, challenging the right of the State Democratic Executive Committee to bar as candidates from the coming party primary, all those who bolted the Dem- ocratic ticket last fall.

This action was in the form of peti- tion for an order from the Jefferson Cir- cuit Court, to restrain election officers from holding the primary in Jefferson County. The Circuit Court denied the petition, deciding in favor of the state



committee.

It is understood that request has been made by Mr. Wilkinson that he be permitted to submit the appeal to the high court at the earliest convenient date, and it is believed that the court will consider it and take the case under advisement probably next Wednesday.

Whether Justices A. D. Sayre and Virgil Bouldin who are candidates for reelection this year, will recuse themselves or not, is not known. If they do so, their action will be entirely voluntary, it was learned yesterday, as there is no statutory provision requiring them to do so.

In the regular order of business, the Supreme and Appellate Courts will take up on reconvening, the second division docket, which is composed of appealed cases from the counties of Bibb, Choc-taw, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Sumter and Wilcox.

## THE STAR-SPANGLED CURTAIN RISES

### AGAIN

#### I.

It seems but yesterday that McDowell was demanding a \$75,000,000 bond issue for roads, Carmichael \$35,000,000, Graves \$25,000,000 and Andy Patterson none, the latter offering instead a so-called pay-as-you-go plan, while "Plain Bill" was on the stump making people cry as he defended his parole record.

It seems no longer since Bankhead and Kilby were holding their joint debates in the tri-cities, Bank was making his quiet pastoral calls on the organized religious bodies of the State, Judge Mayfield was expounding the Constitution on stump speech and private conversation, while Musgrove pleaded with the W. C. T. U. to give prohibition a fair trial or something.

While the uproar about highway bonds, chicken taxes, Muscle Shoals and prohibition was under way, the Klan was going quietly about its business, seizing nearly every office in sight, unbeknownst to its enemies, all of whom consciously avoided knowing anything about what was going on. Result: The Klan trappers bagged a Governor, a United States Senator, most of the State officials, a majority of the Legislators and a majority of the county officials. Those who rode with the Klan in the nights that preceded the primary rode to glory on the night that immediately followed.

Thereafter the Klan rode the State with whip and spur.

It levied taxes which in the campaign its candidates had said they would not levy.

It crushed a legislative minority that

proposed, as the State's answer to midnight floggings committed by uncontrollable elements in the Klan, to strip it of its mask.

It crushed the same minority that proposed to restore popular government in Alabama by enacting a majority-rule primary law, thus saving for another day the worm-eaten bridge which had carried it safely over.

It came within an ace of enacting the most abominable press-muzzling law ever seriously proposed before an American Legislature—a law designed to protect the Klan from legitimate criticism.

In the Spring of 1927 it swooped down upon the city of Montgomery to make the most grotesque attempt to capture the city government ever before made by outside agencies to capture a local government in Alabama.

It increased public expenditures, especially in payrolls, to a point far beyond all previous marks or proposals and since then the State has swarmed with its salaried agents.

In 1928 it affronted the genius of the post-war Southern civilization by becoming the spearhead of the Republican army in Alabama—the same army which, victorious at the polls of the Nation, has not been quite so successful as it hoped to be in putting a Packard in every home where once only a Ford or a roadcart could be found and a freezingair in every kitchen where before only a \$15 icebox could be afforded. (Editor's note: If your Packard and your freezingair haven't come, ask the Klan regime of Alabama how come! They took the order for these articles.)

#### II.

It seems but a little while ago since the curtain rose on this tableau. Now here it is 1930 and the curtain rises again.

Spectators observe that the old regime is cracked, but feels strong enough for one more battle. It still has its minority-rule primary system, but is embarrassed a little by having 2 1-2 darlings in the race for Governor, Watt Brown and Jeff Carnley constitution 2 whole darlings and Charlie McCall 1-2, his other 1-2 being, presumably, in the hearts of the opposition to the Klan—the Klan 1-2 having been only

recently retrieved by a stroke of genius which came to light with the discovery that Charlie had flopped on the majority-rule primary question and also on the matter of barring bolters as candidates. Moreover, the robed regime's greatest living darling has been invalidated home until after the August primary and it is an open question whether sufficient strength (and courage) will return to him in time for him to lead the charge in November. There is, too, the record of the Klan in power to be defended—that, perhaps, is the Klan's greatest single misfortune.

#### III.

There are to be sure numerous other features of the show, some of which are more important if less amusing. Candidates for Governor and Legislature are wondering what, if anything, they should do about the embarrassing quarrel between competitors in the mercantile world, one group of whom believe the State government should take a hand. They are meeting the "issue" warily, none of them, with the possible exception of the Attorney-General, being prepared to stage as good an act as old man Henderson and Clarence Saunders are giving radio audiences and the readers of newspaper advertising.

The same candidates also are a little troubled by the "free" textbook question, some of them having committed themselves to "free" books and some having shied off gracefully. We imagine that before the campaign has progressed very far all of them will discover an interest in the question raised in this paper recently by a Coffee County correspondent who desired to know if it wouldn't be a good idea to get free schools in Alabama before we assume the costly burden of providing "free" textbooks.

There is not the same interest this time in road-building that there was four years ago. One candidate recommends a \$50,000,000 bond issue and presumably he will count on this to give him his strength; another is for a "reasonable" bond issue, another against bonds—and as to the others, we really do not know what they propose to do. Perhaps they don't know themselves. Plainly the candidates for Governor and for the Legislature are un-

certain as to the temper of the people regarding another bond issue during the present unfavorable condition of business and industry.

All candidates, including those who favor "free" textbooks, are for economy and some will no doubt emphasize their belief in a restoration of economy in public expenditures.

On the whole, the issues are not clear-cut as yet. But within a few weeks we, the people, should know what questions we are expected to decide this year. Potential issues will be developed and before it is over we shall witness a stirring campaign, for the personalities of some of the candidates for the various important offices and the political cross-currents involved are of a sort to arouse popular interest.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

## DE PRIEST AND THE KLAN

The ranks of the Birmingham (Ala.) Ku Klux Klan were recently thrown into a savage uproar. The cause of the Klan turmoil was the result of news reaching that organization to the effect that Congressman DePriest of Illinois, was scheduled to visit the southern city as a guest of Birmingham's colored citizens.

As a protest against the proposed DePriest visit, the Klansmen "burned the congressman in effigy."

According to a special dispatch on the subject, the idea of discouraging so-called communistic activities, was also said to have played a part in the Klan effigy burning program.

The demonstration was interpreted as an effort to scare Mr. DePriest into canceling his proposed visit to Birmingham.

It has been revealed that more than 2,500 Ku Klux Klansmen staged a parade through the streets of Birmingham immediately preceding their cowardly effigy burning absurdity.

The hooded paraders distributed placards among the crowd which read as follows:

"Alabama is safe for white supremacy."  
"It is a good state for good Negroes, but a bad state for bad Negroes."

According to eye witnesses they fired pistols and machine guns and in many other ways sought to intimidate the colored people.

Throughout it all, the black citizen stood with arms folded along the line of march and watched the white robed products of southern democracy with noticeable contempt. This was clear proof that no longer were Negroes awe-stricken by the brand of impertinence as dished out by Knights of the Kerocene Kan. Evidently they were not afraid of those who were too cowardly to show their faces as they perpetrated their barbecue ceremonies. Which, of course is good news.

Such occurrences lead one to believe, and fortunately so, that the time is approaching when Colored American citizens will finally make up their minds to go the limit in protecting their Constitutional rights.

Congressman DePriest was scheduled to speak in Birmingham at the forth-coming convention of the Mosaic Templars of America. However, thirty thousand Alabamians, all members of the order, will be denied the privilege of hearing the constitutionally elected member of the American House of Congress. This preposterous fact was revealed when permission for the use of the Municipal auditorium for the fraternal session was rescinded to safe-guard "White Supremacy," and support the vicious policy of the Ku Klux Klan.

# ALABAMA KLUXERS WARN

Circulate Placard Stating "Alabama Is Good State For Good Negroes and a Bad State For Bad Negroes"

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 26—(A.N.P.)—In what have been interpreted as efforts to intimidate and prevent the appearance of Congressman Oscar DePriest of Illinois, here as scheduled in July, members of the Ku Klux Klan "burned the congressman in effigy" here Thursday night. The idea of discouraging so-called Communistic activities also was said to have played a part in the Klan's program.

The demonstration took place in North Birmingham and was preceded by a parade which started on North Sixteenth street. The paraders distributed placards among the crowd which read:  
"Alabama is safe for white supremacy."  
"It is a good state for good Negroes, but a bad state for bad Negroes."  
The Negro section, in which the demonstration was held, and through which the parade passed, was unperturbed by the parade, and the citizens watched with a calmness which clearly nonplussed the hooded and robed Klan, thereby proving to

them that no longer were Negroes awe-stricken by white-robed figures, nor were they afraid of those who were too cowardly to show their faces as they carried out their ceremonies.

Melvin Chisum of Chicago, who is visiting here, sent the following dispatch to the Associated Negro Press: "Last night about 2,500 Ku Klux Klansmen paraded through the Negro section of the city of Birmingham, Ala.

"They fired pistols and machine-guns and otherwise intimidated the colored folk. They paraded every section where Negroes live. I drove alone in my car from point to point of vantage after the end would pass me, and thus viewed the procession in four different sections which were thickly populated by Negroes.

"This is a frightful section of the uncivilized world, and I believe this southern white man is becoming more bloodthirsty each day he lives. 'Happy Days Have Come Again' was sung by the paraders repeatedly.

"That seems to be the national anthem of the mobbers and the lynchocrats."

Congressman DePriest is scheduled to be the principal speaker at the forthcoming convention of the Mosaic Templars of America, of which some 30,000 Alabamians are members. The organization here secured the Municipal Auditorium for the session which the congressman was to address, but the announcement caused such a disturbance among the benighted and Klan-ridden whites that the commissioner rescinded his permission in order to safeguard "white supremacy."

Brave Ku Klux Klansmen of Birmingham have burned in effigy Congressman Oscar DePriest of Chicago and a communist organizer named Tom Johnson. It is to be hoped that they started the fire with some of the no-hell tracts of the millennial dawnists.

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Dublin, Ga. Courier-Herald  
Friday, June 20, 1930

## DEPRIEST BURNED IN EFFIGY BY THE KU KLUX KLAN

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 20—(U.P.)—Oscar DePriest, negro republican congressman from Illinois, and Tom Johnson, communist organizer in

the south, were burned in effigy by Ku Klux Klansmen last night in north Birmingham.

More than 1,000 klansmen in full regalia participated in the affair which was staged on the grounds of a negro school. The klansmen previously had paraded in automobiles through negro sections distributing cards warning negroes against affiliation with the communists.

Placards were placed over the charred remains of the two men burned in effigy, reading: "Here lies the body of negro Oscar DePriest—He believed in social equality," and "Here lies the body of white Tom Johnson—He believed in communism and social equality."

Meridian, Miss. Star  
Sunday, June 29, 1930

## Plan Big Klan Demonstration At Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 28. (U.P.)—Plans for what members claim will be one of the largest Ku Klux Klan demonstrations ever staged in this country were being made Saturday for July 17, the same night Oscar DePriest, negro congressman from Illinois, is scheduled to speak here. Klan leaders said that more than 2,000 klansmen in full regalia would take part in the parade. The klansmen will pass through the downtown district and by the place where DePriest holds his meeting, it was said.

DePriest is coming here to address members of a negro Masonic order.

Orleans, La. Times-Picayune  
Saturday, June 21, 1930

## NEGRO IN CONGRESS BURNED IN EFFIGY

1000 in Regalia of Klan Parade in Birmingham District

(By The Associated Press)  
Birmingham, Ala., June 20.—Oscar DePriest, negro congressman from Illinois, was burned in effigy by a group of 1000 persons dressed in the

regalia of the Ku Klux Klan in Collegeville, negro section of North Birmingham, last night.

Tom Johnson, Communist organizer, also was burned in effigy during the demonstration which followed an automobile parade through the negro district when pamphlets warning against affiliating with Communistic organizations were distributed.

DePriest is scheduled to address a state gathering of negroes here July 17. He has been denied use of the city auditorium by the City Commission.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun  
Saturday, June 21, 1930

## DePriest Burned In Effigy By Klansmen

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Ku Klux Klan - 1930

## THIS KU KLUX PESTILENCE

### I.

The revelation by The Advertiser this morning that the Graves deficit—not counting the old one he inherited—totaled \$9,586,212.82 at the end of September, 1929, notwithstanding substantial increases in taxation, is but the latest chapter in a tragic tale.

No living man knows how much the deficit will be increased at the end of the current fiscal year, but it is reasonable to expect that several millions more will have been added.

The estimate in the news columns this morning, based on figures obtained by an expert from official sources, is that the Graves-made deficit for his four year term will run between \$12,000,000 and \$14,000,000. Frankly, The Advertiser does not know what it will be. It only knows that September 30, 1929, it was \$9,586,212.82.

This The Advertiser submits, with due regard for its responsibilities as a public journal, is Ku Kluxism's latest gift to man in Alabama. Let us hasten to give whatever thanks we, the taxpayers, feel are deserved in the premises.

But there are other chapters in this tale. There are other and older reasons why all who are appreciative should not neglect to return thanks in such measure as our sense of gratitude would seem to require.

These other chapters have been published to all the world before, but lest they be forgotten and their relation to the latest chapters overlooked, The Advertiser herewith takes it upon itself to recapitulate the whole sickening story.

### II.

In 1926, by controlling some 30 per cent of the votes in a minority-rule primary, Ku Kluxism nominated a United States Senator, a Governor, an Attorney-General and numerous other State officials, though not all of our State officials chosen at that time. It obtained control of the Legislature. It already had obtained control

in many counties and municipalities. In 1926 it extended its hold on counties and municipalities.

By 1926 the Klan, feeling its power, became arrogant and bold, and it manifested its strength and arrogance in many ways. Nocturnal floggings by masked gangs (composed of lawless and uncontrollable minorities in the Klan, the majority being then, as now, decent and humane people) had been occurring here and there over the State for some time.

With its sweeping political victories in the State the Klan became noticeably more troublesome. The floggers in the order decided it would be safe to catch up with their neglected retributive duties. Their fraternity controlled most of the agencies of government. Victims of the lash, it had been noted, seldom talked. The public rarely learned of such outrages until long after the victim's wounds had healed and his doctor's bill had been discharged. Why not go ahead? They did.

Now these floggers did not commit all the outrages attributed to Klansmen, but they committed most of them and were morally responsible for all of them. All told there were more than 300 floggings in Alabama which could be fairly attributed to this lawless and uncontrollable minority in the Klan. These gallant, hook-wormy heroes included all sorts and conditions of people among their victims, but 99 per cent of them were friendless and defenseless. Several victims were white women. A number were sick or lame old men. Some were 15-year-old children—and we do not mean to include among the juveniles the gawky Jeff Calloway. He was about grown.

In one county alone an oathbound grand jury, composed of indignant but helpless citizens, reported that there had been 17 "Klan" floggings within a short while, but that they could not get sufficient evidence to indict. There were subsequently scores of indictments in the State and 10 convictions.

Newspaper publicity, initiated by The Advertiser, brought these crimes to light

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and forced the Ku Klux Governor of Alabama and the Ku Klux Attorney-General to take vigorous, and as it turned out, effective action. Editorials in The Advertiser arraigning the Governor and the Attorney-General for their silence and inaction in face of these midnight atrocities contained implications and insinuations that happily were intolerable to these officials. And they went into action.

But if the Graves press-muzzling bills, which a few weeks later he did all in his klucking power to have enacted, had been in effect then it would not have been possible for The Advertiser and other Alabama newspapers to expose this savagery and thus compel a complaisant if not reluctant State government to do its duty against men who had helped to put it in power.

### III.

It is a matter of historical interest and of political significance that in all their public addresses on good morals, good citizenship and "law enforcement," Senator Heflin and Senator Black could never be prevailed on to denounce these nocturnal atrocities. Again and again in the course of the war which it and other papers were making on this appalling evil, The Advertiser called on the two Senators from this State to condemn lawless Klansmen for acts of violence. Repeatedly we taunted them for their silence. It was a time for all good men to stand together and condemn a manifest menace to life and liberty. Public opinion needed guidance; but all taunts of Heflin and Black were futile. They remained utterly silent from that good day to this. So far as The Advertiser has been able to learn neither of them has ever publicly condemned hooded gangs.

Governor Graves himself was not only silent but resentful of the newspaper attacks on the Klan. He ordered McAdory's men into action, to be sure, but he never talked for publication except to say on one occasion, when a reporter for The Advertiser suggested it to him, "floggings in Alabama must cease."

Of course Governor Graves hated brutality then as now and had no sort of sympathy with illegal action against citizens. Nevertheless he was resentful and suspicious throughout and at last went to amazing extremes to punish the newspapers that had waged the fight against the lawless groups within the Klan. He never did give the public that fiery and bold leadership which the situation demanded. The Attorney-General was far more outspoken and aggressive.

We cite these circumstances for two reasons: First, to show that a section of the Klan was criminally vicious and a menace to law and order, and second, to show that the political power exercised by the respectable element of the Klan was vicious for the reason that the politicians whom it had put into high offices were unwilling to offend it even when the public interest demanded that the Klan be offended.

The Klan has been a vicious influence in the life of this people for many reasons. Here are some of them:

Ku Kluxism prevented the Legislature from outlawing the mask.

It prevented the Legislature from enacting a bill restoring majority-rule primaries to the voters.

It endeavored to have enacted bills to prevent free and proper newspaper criticism of Ku Kluxism.

The Klan caused its Governor to confine his appointments largely to members of the order. There were some exceptions, but no great number.

He put the jury commissions of the counties in the hands of Klansmen, thus giving a secret oathbound order control over the jury box—that is to say, control over the property, the liberty and the lives of citizens.

An immediate consequence of this was to force many lawyers who hated the Klan to join it in order to have an equal chance against Klan lawyers before Klan judges and Klan juries chosen from Klan boxes.

Thus the Klan came into control of the jury box and the ballot box.

Klan influence has been vicious for still



other reasons. It has thrived on prejudice and ignorance. It has made men and women suspicious of good neighbors who actually were above suspicion. It has made men and women hate neighbors who actually deserved no such fate.

In 1928 Ku Kluxism stole away the sense of intellectual decency and fairplay of thousands. It put a monster on their pedestal where before a gracious ideal had been. It taught men to lie on their fellows and made perjury, for the first time, a respectable vice. Now and then we have even seen its acids cut away the sense of honor and shame in Christian ministers. In every way Ku Kluxism has been a spiritual blight.

Ku Kluxism never had a good idea which would not have fared better in other hands. It never had a bad idea which was not characteristic of itself and inherent in the nature of the order.

Ku Kluxism has been a public scandal almost from its inception. It has been a political and social disease with few if any redeeming features. Yet the jobholders who were elected by it to rule over us here in Alabama have accepted its favors, if not its dictation, without a murmur of protest. We refer particularly to the Governor of Alabama and our two United States Senators. These men have found fault with many worthy things, but never with Ku Kluxism, the least worthy thing in the public life of this State.

Ku Kluxism not only has done all of this, but now we see that it has nearly wrecked the finances of the State. The Graves administration to be sure can point to some constructive and intelligent public service—all of which was done in spite of its limitations—but Ku Kluxism can never live down the fact of this \$9,586,212.82 deficit which may yet run between \$12,000,000 and \$14,000,000. Now, Yankees and corporations are not going to pay this deficit—you and your children are going to pay it in the sweat of your faces, and whoever tells you differently lies to you.

#### IV.

The time has come to erase this Ku Klux spot from the name of Alabama, and to redeem the dignity of this com-

monwealth before the world.

The time has come to strike down this essentially evil thing. The time has come to stamp out this pestilence as Gorgas stamped out the fevers of the tropics.

How to do it? The answer is self-evident. The way to do it is for the Democrats to nominate for Governor the bravest Alabamian of his day, the scourge of every vicious and backward force in the State, the most defiant enemy of reaction and stupidity since Oscar Underwood fell to sleep, the only candidate for Governor who offers a perfect means of protest against this pestilence—the only one indeed who stands before a disgraced Klan and an afflicted people debt-free and title-

clear, unafraid of man or beast—that is to say, that grim old Spartan—

BENJAMIN MEEK MILLER!



**OAKVILLE, Ont., Canada, March 7.-**That the pernicious influence of the rapidly dying Ku Klux Klan has extended its slimy barnacles into a country which has heretofore been comparatively free of racial prejudices is shown by the fact that 75 white-hooded figures recently took a white girl away from her sweetheart the night before they were to have been wed.

The girl, Alice Jones, is 20 years old, and was engaged to the man, Ira Johnston, 30, with her mother's full knowledge and consent until a few days ago when the woman sought to break up the romance because of some things she had heard concerning her prospective son-in-law.

Johnston lived with his parents in a small house in Oakville, but in view of his impending marriage, requested them to live with his aunt and uncle on another street.

The young couple were seen together openly about the town and their friendship was no different from that of other young folks and excited no more comment. When their engagement was announced they received congratulations from their white and Race friends alike.

When the time for their marriage approached Johnston and his bride-to-be went to the city hall, but were denied a marriage license. The next day, which was Saturday, they went to a nearby town, where they had no trouble whatever in securing the document necessary to their nuptials.

#### Klan to the Rescue

Happily they made plans to be married Sunday by a local minister, as it was too late the day they secured the license. Saturday night they spent the evening at Johnston's aunt's house with his parents. Although there were no other guests present the family held a little party to celebrate the couple's impending marriage.

At about 10:30 o'clock a cavalcade of automobiles from the neighboring town of Hamilton stole silently into Oakville. Out of the machines climbed about 75 men clad in the customary white robes and hoods. Quickly they placed a wooden cross at the foot of the town's main street and ignited it.

Having thus announced their presence they stood around the blazing pile until its last ember had darkened. Awed citizens of both races watched, momentarily expecting the Klansmen to break into some demonstration.

Their only movement was to "fall in" in response to an unheard command from their unknown leader, after which they marched silently up the street to the house in which Miss Jones and her dark sweetheart were.

This outrage has aroused such a storm of protest all over the Dominion of Canada that a sweeping investigation by the attorney general has been announced. This is the first time in the history of the country that such a Klan action has taken place, and many prominent citizens of both races have declared that the order of the fiery cross must take itself back to where it came from—the United States.

This phase of the evening's excitement was best told by Johnston himself the next morning.

"Miss Jones," he said, "has been staying with my mother for the last two months. My mother and Mrs. Jones are friends and both belong to the Salvation Army. When Alice suffered a nervous breakdown, her mother brought her to live with my mother. I spoke to Mrs. Jones about marriage and she gave her consent even before I had spoken to her daughter."

"Yesterday Alice and I went to Port Credit and secured a marriage license from the clerk there and we intended to be married on Sunday at the A. M. E. church. Rev. C. A. Perry, the pastor, has the license now."

#### Gave No Explanation

"At about 10:30 o'clock last night we were playing cards at my aunt's home on Kerr St. A knock came at the door. My aunt answered it and a man in civilian clothes asked for Mr. Johnston Jr. He asked me if I went out working and I said that I did, but that I was not working at present. We walked out to a closed car in front of the house in which four or five men were sitting. They were all in civilian clothes. Then the man who had been talking to me went back to the house and brought Miss Jones out."

"She got into the car with the men. I asked what authority they had for taking her away. They didn't make any reply, but closed the door and drove off."

"I was worried about the girl and went back into the house, grabbed my coat and hat and rushed out to see where she had gone. I walked around the street but saw no sign of her. Later I went to some friends but didn't tell them what had happened. I returned home about 2 o'clock this morning, but I never even saw the Ku Klux Klan."

Johnston admitted that the girl had stayed in the house with him alone

two or three nights. He said he couldn't see any harm in that until some of his friends pointed out that it was causing talk in the town. Since then, he said, the girl had been living on Kerr St. with his aunt and parents and he had been sleeping at the house on Head St.

He denied that he and Miss Jones were in the house on Head St. alone when the Ku Klux Klan arrived, maintaining that he had been in the aunt's home on Kerr St. when the Klan took the girl away.

#### Mother Asks Klan's Aid

The mother of Alice Jones admitted that she had written the letter to the Ku Klux Klan this week asking them to assist her in breaking up the match between her daughter and Johnston. She refused to say to whom she had addressed the letter. She said she had been advised by a friend to take that course.

While admitting that she had given her consent to the marriage at first, later she desired to have it broken off because of certain things she had been told about Johnston, she said.

#### Klan Threatens

Ira Johnston's mother said that at 11 o'clock the Klan appeared a second time.

"They drew up in front of the house with their cars and at first I thought it was a surprise party," she said. "They all wore flowing white robes with a crest, a fiery cross, over their left breast."

"Their heads were covered with long white masks, with two small slits for their eyes. The top of these masks were sort of cone-shaped, with a white tassel at the extreme top. I had seen pictures of the Ku Klux Klan and I knew who they were. They nailed the large cross to a post in front of our door and set it on fire."

"When the flames had gone out the spokesman came to the door and knocked. He asked for Ira, but I told him he was gone. He was the only one that spoke, but the house was

surrounded by white figures. Then the spokesman told me that if Ira, my son, was ever seen walking down the street with a white girl again the Klan would attend to him. With that they got in their cars and drove away."

The Klansmen, it is said, came from Hamilton and Toronto by pre-arranged arrangement. It is stated that they had been invited to take some such action by some one in Oakville.

The mother of the girl is a very active worker in the Salvation Army. The house from which the girl was ejected is in the ultra fashionable district of Oakville. Johnston is a fine looking man and stands over six feet in height. He is quite a figure in the town.

#### Mayor Approves

The mayor of Oakville stated that all he knew about the affair was that it "was conducted in an orderly manner." However his further statements indicate that he may not have been as "ignorant" as he claims.

"There was strong feeling against the marriage of the white girl and the Negro," he went on. "They had tried to get married here, but I heard that they couldn't get a license. I don't know why that was, but just heard it on the street."

"Personally I think the Ku Klux Klan acted quite properly in the matter. Everything was done in an orderly manner, and it will be an object lesson."

"The young Negro in question was reared here and wasn't a bad fellow," the mayor said. "I can't tell much about the girl or her family."

The chief of police of Oakville knew that the demonstration was to be made and did nothing about it. Later he admitted he recognized many of the Klansmen and that among them there were many prominent business men and at least one minister.

He said that when they assured him that they would not molest Johnston he allowed them to enter the town and carry out their designs without his interference.

#### Race Lawyer Protests

"I call the doings of the Ku Klux Klan at Oakville last evening an outrage," declared E. L. Cross, Race lawyer of Toronto. "As a British citizen I have always believed that the rule of law should always prevail. By this is meant that only the duly constituted authorities, whose duty it is to enforce the law, should be the ones to do such things."

"These so-called bodies under patriotic guise are nuisances when they arrogate unto themselves any such authority. It is an axiom that a man's home is his castle and as its corollary, a man has free choice to do as he pleases so long as he does not violate the law. As a consequence he is free to choose what companions he cares to have. When anybody under the guise of patriotism or any other ism trespasses on the right of any man, no matter who he may be or what race, it should be the duty of all law abiding citizens to denounce any such action."

#### Says Rights Violated

"I think it is most revolting," said the wife of a well-known Toronto Race man. "We are British subjects and our rights should not be thus trampled on. It is most absurd that

one section of the citizenry should take the matter into their own hands. I have lived in Jamaica, where mixed marriages have been perfectly happy, and there is no reason to believe that the present instance could not have been that way."

"The Colored men who gave their lives in the World war made their sacrifices ungrudgingly and they are entitled to equality of rights with the other Britishers with whom they fought side by side."

The growth of the Klan in Canada has been slow in spite of frantic efforts of its organizers to bolster its membership in that country after United States members had begun dropping out in alarming numbers. However the Catholic religion is the predominant Canadian faith, and so not much progress could be made.

Primarily a money making scheme, using race and religious hatreds to attract the worst types of men within its ranks, the Klan has become merely a joke in the United States.

## No Country for a Ku Klux

[Editorial Printed in the Toronto (Canada) Globe, Monday, Jan. 3]

Whatever may have been the merits of the motive prompting a Ku Klux Klan demonstration in Oakville, there can be no compromise with a policy which leads a group of citizens to take the law into their own hands.

Canada has all the machinery needed for proper and orderly government, and it takes its commands, directly or indirectly, from the people.

When a cause is just, the people can be led to see it, and to have it promoted through the regular channels. There is no necessity for a section of the community to set itself up as an arbitrary tribunal acting as prosecutor and judge.

So far as known, the Ku Klux Klan has not made great progress in the dominion. Where it exists its members may believe their objectives are worthy. If so, they will stand open discussion in daylight; they should not call for nocturnal visits and disguising costumes. The Klansmen would gain respect by putting their cards on the table and challenging opposition, but only as citizens applying citizenship privileges. There can be no respect for an organization going about the handling of public business in secret and through intimidation.

If the Ku Klux Klan can carry



on, other organizations, with other motives, can adopt the same methods with equal freedom. This must be recognized by any body of broad-minded men. Chaos would then displace orderly government. The country would not be a fit one in which to live. Canadians do not want government by organized intimidation, such as characterizes some of the small republics of the American continent.

It is regrettable that men of intelligence—such as many of the Klansmen are, presumably—would associate themselves with such a system of righting what they conceive to be wrongs. If they directed their energy toward law making and law enforcement in an open and recognized way, they would be serving the country. By the Ku Klux Klan method they are countering the rule that the majority governs. They would be doing an infinitely better job by seeking to help the majority to govern properly and by building up respect for the established machinery.

The work the nocturnal visitors did at Oakville in separating a white girl from a colored man may be commendable in itself, and prove of benefit, but it is certain that the methods were wrong.

# Atty. Cross Will Stand His Ground

TORONTO, Ont., Canada, April 4.—“There will certainly be no retraction from me!” Thus, with the same fearlessness which has characterized his fight against the Ku Klux Klan, did Lionel L. Cross, prominent local attorney, refuse the demand of the Klan that he apologize, or retract some of his statements concerning the hooded order.

“Rather, I cannot emphasize the fact too strongly, or direct the accusation too pointedly, that any organization which takes the law into its own hands and boasts that it can do what the law cannot do, is an outlaw horde and all its protestations to the contrary are a mere cloak to cover its nefarious objects.”

The latest move on the part of the Klan to regain its rapidly ebbing prestige was its demand that Cross either publicly apologize or defend himself against a suit for slander which the order proposed to institute in the courts.

The whole trouble started a few weeks ago when the Klan took the sweetheart of Ira Johnson, a member of our group, away from him. Last

week Johnson and the girl were married without interference.

## Klan Tries to Stop Attacks

Since then, Cross and others, including Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, have waged war on the knights of the fiery cross with such good effect that the Klan is trying every means possible to halt them.

Canada is in the odd position of witnessing the vainglorious Kluxers asking for help from the courts—invoking the aid of the law which they profess to consider inadequate for the enforcement of justice.

## Poor Klansmen!

Heretofore the Klan has had the reputation of donning hoods and robes to hide its members' identities while it carried out some of its unlawful designs in the dark of night. Now, because of the sharpness of a Race lawyer's tongue and the effectiveness of a Jewish rabbi's sermons, the Canadians are beholding the spectacle of the Klan running for cover and simultaneously yelping for help by the law.

Lacking the barbarism of the American Southern section, these knights of the Klan are apparently afraid to take a direct means to avenge the deadly insults heaped upon them by Cross and the rabbi. So they will bring suit for slander.

## Were “Misrepresented”

The Canadian Klan alleges that Cross and the rabbi “maliciously misrepresented the facts,” and charges Cross with strenuous agitation, apparently in the endeavor of creating racial enmity. “It is very apparent,” reads the letter, “that it may be Mr. Cross's legal privilege to marry a Chinese, a Jewess or a white woman, but it would be a sad state of affairs if mixed marriages and racial impurity were to gain favor.”

## Cross Replies

“The charge that the ‘strenuous agitation’ on my part,” stated Mr. Cross, “is apparently an endeavor to create racial enmity, is wrongly conceived. Nobody is doing more than I am to bring about a better understanding between the races, and I pride myself on the fact that I have a host of loyal white friends who admire my attitude. Whatever legal action the Klan wishes to take it need not delay it, for I stand by what I have said.”

Chicago, Ill.

Defender

4-25-30



Klux Klux Klan- 1930

Florida

## Police Start Probe Of Florida Flogging

OCALA, Fla., June 27.—(P)—Officers today investigated the flogging last night of E. R. Barrett, T. J. Anthony and Nelson Brown, Barrett's nephew, at Burbank, east of the Ocala river.

The assailants were not identified. The report reaching here stated that one man, impersonating a deputy sheriff, went to the Barrett home with word that Barrett was wanted at the sheriff's office in connection with recent no-fence litigation.

Anthony, Brown and Barrett's wife accompanied them and all were taken into the woods and severely beaten.

Officers believed the flogging was an outgrowth of efforts by Barrett and Anthony to enforce the no-fence law which was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court last Wednesday.

Sheriff Thomas, working on the theory that the flogging was done by cattlemen from Putnam county, left for that county today. Indignation was said to be running high in the Burbank section.

PALATKA, Fla., June 27.—(P)—Sheriff S. C. M. Thomas, of Marion county, arrived here today in an effort to learn identity of a band of 12 or 15 men who yesterday flogged E. R. Barrett, T. J. Anthony and Nelson Brown near the old Grahamville ferry.

Thomas said he believed the men in the mob were sympathizers with cattlemen of Marion county, who opposed Barrett and Anthony in no-fence activities.

**BLACK SHIRT CHARTER  
BATTLE SLATED TODAY**  
10-7-30

**Boykin To Oppose Issuance  
of Papers on Grand  
Jury Charges.**

Atlanta, Ga.

Clash over the request of Holt J. Gewinner for a charter as the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, is scheduled for this morning in Judge G. H. Howard's division of Fulton superior court. The case was called Monday and postponed until today.

Gewinner and his organization will be opposed by Solicitor-General John A. Boykin, representing the Fulton county grand jury, and the law firm of Murrell & Murrell, representing the American Fascisti as incorporated in Orlando, Orange county, Florida.

A subpoena duces tecum for the Gewinner organization's records was issued Monday by the solicitor-general. The files were brought to the courtroom, but, owing to postpone-

ment of the case for the day, were not used.

The grand jury recently adopted resolutions protesting against issuance of a Fulton county charter to the Gewinner organization. The jury charged that the order is inimical to public interests, and alleged that employers of negro labor have met with attempts at intimidation. At the grand jury's request, Mr. Boykin undertook to block issuance of the charter. Mayor Ragsdale recently refused the order a permit parade, at the instance of the grand jury.

An intervention will be filed this morning by Henry J. Norton, president; Raymond V. Bergen, first vice president; Thomas B. West, second vice president; J. O. Wood, secretary, and James R. Venable, treasurer, of the organization incorporated in Orange county. The intervenors charge, in a petition prepared by Murrell & Murrell, that the Gewinner order is a colorable imitation of the Florida incorporated organization, and that the Norton-Wood-Venable order existed before the Gewinner order.

A number of Georgia cities have refused meeting places and parades to the Black Shirts. The application for a charter filed by Gewinner declares the organization is one supporting white supremacy and opposed to communism.

**Orlando Prevents  
Black Shirt Meeting**  
10-2-30

ORLANDO, Fla., Oct. 1.—(P)—Permission to hold a public meeting in a local park was denied the American fascisti Order of Black Shirts here today by the city council, which declined to set a precedent, stating that other organizations were not permitted to use the park for such purpose.

H. J. Norton, president of the order with headquarters here, and Joseph Wood, of Atlanta, secretary, appeared before the council in behalf of the organization. Both asked the use of the park to bring out the aims and purposes of the organization to the public.

Wood later announced his intention to hire a public hall for the meeting.



Ku Klux Klan - 1930

Georgia

# Black Shirts Are Independent Denied Charter 10-23-30 By Fulton Court Atlanta, Ga.

All "Black Shirt" or "fascist" operations in Georgia were enjoined and a charter in this state denied to the Holt J. Gewinner organization by Superior Court Judge G. H. Howard Friday. The hearing Friday morning brought out testimony that Jack White, convicted on a bribery charge in the municipal graft investigation, was an organizer of the Gewinner group in the states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Judge Howard's order, in addition to restraining Gewinner's organization from operating as "American Fascisti" or under any similar name, also enjoins the Florida incorporated "fascisti" of J. O. Wood and others from operating in this state.

Under the evidence, Judge Howard held, the term "white supremacy" was so misunderstood and the purposes stated in the petition were so construed that the powers sought to be conferred by a charter would authorize both legal and illegal acts.

An outburst of laughter in the courtroom Friday morning nearly caused Judge Howard to finish the hearing in private chambers. Attorney Walter A. Sims, representing Gewinner, asked R. S. Gullledge, a former leader in the order, for certain specific facts about expenditures on trips to Athens, and when Gullledge could not give definite amounts spent for sandwiches, lunches, etc., Sims asked if his failure to keep an account was not the same thing he was charging Gewinner with. The audience laughed, and Judge Howard said he would hear the rest of the case in chambers. Sims told the court he was sure that the crowd would not make another demonstration, and Judge Howard consented to complete the matter in open court.

The charter petition was opposed vigorously by Solicitor-General John A. Boykin on behalf of the grand jury, which had adopted resolutions condemning the "Black Shirt" organization as inimical to the public good. Boykin termed the order a "money-grabbing" organization and charged that Gewinner's purpose was to get a lot of money by offering jobs, by replacing Negroes, to unemployed white men who obtained membership cards at \$1 each.

## NEW ORDER FORMED BY "BLACK SHIRTS"

Members of the American Fascisti or Order of Black Shirts have reorganized into the "Order of Patriots," it was announced Friday night by J. Holt Gewinner, leader of the enjoined group, after his election as president of the new organization at a meeting at 976 1/2 Marietta street.

Organization of the "Order of Patriots" will not affect the name of American Fascisti groups outside of Georgia, Gewinner said, adding that the "Black Shirts" plan to carry their fight for a charter to the supreme court.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal

## GEWINNER PREYS ON UNEMPLOYED, BOYKIN CHARGES

## Black Shirt Organizer Is Accused of Promising Jobs to Recruits

Applications for membership in the American Fascisti, order of Black-shirts, headed by Holt J. Gewinner, were obtained on promises of securing employment for the unemployed, it was charged by Solicitor General John A. Boykin in Fulton Superior Court Thursday during the hearing on an application for a charter before Judge G. H. Howard.

Mr. Boykin, in his examination of Gewinner on the witness stand and also the examination of R. S. Gullledge, a former official in the proposed organization, brought out the information that a drive was put on for members in the organization in which promises were made freely that

all white men out of employment who joined the organization would be given employment by replacing negroes.

Testimony was introduced to show that demands had been made on various business concerns to discharge all negro employees and replace them with white men. It was contended by the solicitor general that this bait was what prompted many of the unemployed to pay a dollar and to join the organization.

## Finance Statement Read

A statement was introduced by the solicitor general which was said to have been presented at a meeting of the Blackshirts in Almand Park, September 19, in which it was shown that from more than \$2,000 collected there was but \$2.75 in the treasury. Gullledge and R. A. Gordon, officials in the organization, said they were unable to get an accounting of the business affairs and financial condition of the organization from Gewinner, but the statement was presented at a meeting in which they said they had no knowledge.

The statement, as presented by Mr. Boykin, showed a total income to that date of \$2,471.07, with a total expense of \$2,430.82 and \$37.30 advances, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$2.75.

An itemized statement of the accounts showed expenditures as follows: Office expenses, \$480.24; newspaper expenses, \$657.31; organization expenses, \$1,227.34; charity, \$65.91.

The income was listed as meeting contributions, \$486.66; newspaper sales, \$743.75; paid memberships, \$1,044; donations, \$55.63, and other income, \$8.53.

## Preying on Jobless Charged

Mr. Boykin said in a statement prior to the resumption of the hearing Thursday morning that the unemployed people were preyed upon by Gewinner with false promises and were induced to join the organization by promises of obtaining work. He declared the sole purpose of the organization is to make money for Gewinner and that it has no advantages to society.

A feature of the session Wednesday was the presentation of a cross petition by Attorney Walter A. Sims, counsel for Gewinner, for an injunction to restrain the Order of Black Shirts, as chartered in Orlando, from operating in Georgia on the ground it is a colorable imitation of the order seeking a charter here. No action has been taken on the petition by Judge Howard.

Gewinner was put on the stand Wednesday and examined by Solicitor Boykin as to the purposes of the order and the financial condition. He said there were 1,700 members of the order in Fulton County and other parts of Georgia, but only 1,300 had paid the dollar application fee. He denied that the purpose of the organization was to make financial gains for the incorporators.

Mr. Boykin is opposing issuance of the charter on request of the Fulton County grand jury on the ground that it is a "money-grabbing organization and organized to promote racial prejudice."

Issuance of a charter also is op-

posed by the law firm of Murrell & Murrell, representing the Florida organization.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph

Sunday, October 19, 1930

## Order of Patriots

## Plans to Take in Black Shirt Crowd

ATLANTA, Oct. 18 (INS)—Organizers of the American Fascisti, order of Black Shirts, an anti-Negro association which yesterday was denied a charter and enjoined from operating under that name, tonight issued a statement to the effect that they will attempt to operate under the name of "Order of Patriots."

Despite condemnation of the organization by Superior Court Judge G. H. Howard, who declared it "unconstitutional" in its aim to replace all Negro workers in Georgia with white men, Holt J. Gewinner, leader of the "Black Shirt" movement, said he would seek to procure a charter under the new name.

Solicitor-General John A. Boykin, during the five-day hearing of the organization's petition for a charter, charged officials of the order with preying upon unemployed white men by promising them jobs if they would join the order and pay the entrance fee of \$1.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution

Wednesday, October 15, 1930

## GEWINNER ASSAILED BY FOES OF CHARTER

## Witnesses Testify Leader Used Blackjack Instead of Gavel.

Hearing of a charter application filed by Holt J. Gewinner for the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, continued Tuesday with testimony that Gewinner presided over meetings of the order with a blackjack for a gavel. Judge G. H. Howard will resume the hearing at 9 o'clock this morning in Fulton superior court.

Gewinner took the stand early Tuesday afternoon and was still under examination when court recessed. Gewinner claimed the idea of calling the organization the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, originated with him instead of J. O. Wood, who, with others, has incorporated an organization of that name in Orlando, Fla.

R. S. Gullledge, a former leader of the order, took the stand again Tuesday, and testified that in spite of repeated demands, he was never able to get an accounting of the funds taken in, although he held the title of "con-

troller general."

Solicitor General John A. Boykin represents the grand jury in an attempt to block issuance of the charter. The law firm of Murrell and Murrell represents the organization chartered in Florida, which seeks an injunction against a charter to Gewinner's order. Attorney Walter A. Sims represents Gewinner.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal

Wednesday, October 16, 1930

## Fulton Court Asked To Forbid Operations Of Orlando Fascisti

Attorney Walter A. Sims, representing Holt J. Gewinner in his application for a charter for the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, filed a cross petition in the Fulton Superior Court Wednesday morning in which he seeks to restrain the order as chartered in Orlando, Fla., from operating in Georgia. Judge G. H. Howard took the petition under advisement.

Hearing on the application was resumed Wednesday morning with Gewinner on the witness stand. Solicitor General John A. Boykin examined the witness in an effort to show that the purpose of the applicant was to establish a financial business for himself rather than promote an organization for the benefit of society.

The application is being opposed by Solicitor Boykin, representing the grand jury, and the law firm of Murrell & Murrell, representing a similar order claiming to be chartered in Orlando, Fla.

Mr. Boykin is opposing the granting of the charter on the ground it is an organization "detrimental to society" and that its purpose is "for financial gain and to create racial prejudice," while the Florida group alleges the order is "a colorable imitation" of their organization.

In his statement on the witness stand Tuesday afternoon, Gewinner said the idea of calling the order the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, was his, and not that of the incorporators of the Florida organization. He said the incorporators of the Florida organization went to Florida in order to "steal a march" on him and his associates.

Cordele, Ga. Dispatch

Friday, October 18, 1930

## "BLACK SHIRTS" REFUSED CHARTER IN ATLANTA

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 17 (AP)—Judge G. H. Howard in Fulton superior court today refused charter to the American Fascistic order of "Black Shirts" on the ground that acting members of the association apparently misunderstood the term "white supremacy."



Ku Klux Klan - 1930.

## Starch Taken Out Black Shirts

### Judge Refuses Them Charter and Forbids Further Operation in Georgia

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 27—All the starch was taken out of the "black shirts" here last week when Judge G. H. Howard refused to charter the organization and enjoined it from operating in this state. The decision was handed down after an exhaustive public hearing taking nearly a week in which Fulton county and the state of Georgia, as represented by Solicitor-General John A. Boykin, stoutly resisted the issuance of a charter to the organization on the ground that it was a menace to the rights of Negroes and to the peace of the community.

So vigorous and convincing was the solicitor's attack through scores of witnesses, that there was little doubt from the first that the petitioners for charter were doomed to defeat. Figuratively speaking, he took their shirts off one by one, turned them wrong side out, exhibited all their unsightly rents and seems, and then tore them to shreds. Intrigue, internal dissension, mutual distrust, quarrels about the money, double crossing of one another, bitter denunciations back and forth between the leaders and ultimately their break into warring factions such was the sorry spectacle exhibited to the public day after day as the many witnesses were heard. The spectators could not fail to realize more keenly than ever that a house built on the sands of falsehood, hate, and injustice is bound sooner or later to fall.

In this case the collapse came with dramatic promptness. The first meeting was held on July 2, and for a few weeks the organization held the limelight in a series of big meetings that excited and

terrorized the whole community. Yet with its great crowds and flamboyant claims, it enrolled altogether only 1700 members, of whom only 1,034 paid the one dollar fee. The total receipts to September 19 were \$2,338.50, with the expenses considerably greater. Though repeated efforts to displace Negro workers were reported, the evidence revealed only a single case of success.

Thus the "black shirts" of the American Fascisti join the "night shirts" of the Ku Klux Klan in the futility and oblivion to which all such movements are ultimately doomed. There still remains the group chartered in Florida as the "American Fascisti Order of Black Shirts," but it also was enjoined from operating in Georgia. It has made no announcement as to its plans, but nobody seems to be taking it seriously.

Danville, Va. Bee  
Wednesday, October 15, 1930

## Georgia And the Black Shirts

Application in Georgia for a charter to permit the operation of an American fascist organization, founded upon the idealism of the Italian movement is rather a surprising development when one contemplates the basis of fascism and recognizes how contrary it is to the democratic tendencies of the United States. That the movement should be launched in the South is even more surprising unless its promoters are remnants of the Klan who feel that they can carry out their purposes better under the guise of the black shirt than they could under the white robe. The movement deserves to be discredited. The American government long ago set its mark of disapproval on similar movements launched in Northern cities where there are substantial Italian colonies because government officials saw in its creed a subversive doctrine and one in open conflict with the Constitution of the United States. The only reason that fascism has succeeded in Italy is because it was headed by a dictator who is ruthless, domineering and feared. A branch of the organization in America or a mere copy of it cannot hope to succeed in this country where mass opinion is solidly and traditionally opposed to one man rule.

Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal  
Tuesday, November 11, 1936

### Holt J. Gewinner Begins His Jail Term In Tax Fraud Case

Holt J. Gewinner, one-time leader of the Black Shirts, a secret organization, was in Fulton Tower Tuesday, beginning the first day of his six months' sentence, imposed Monday in Federal Court when his four-year-old probation was revoked because of alleged violations of its provisions. The former Black Shirt leader was also fined \$1,000.

Gewinner pleaded guilty in 1926 to defrauding the government out of \$2,000 federal taxes on his prize-fight programs and had been on probation ever since. Revocation of the parole was based on charges of passing bad checks and driving while intoxicated and failing to make restitution as agreed upon. By serving an extra thirty days and then taking a pauper's oath, he may secure remission of the fine.

## HOLT GEWINNER GETS SENTENCE OF SIX MONTHS IN JAIL

Holt J. Gewinner, former Black Shirt organizer, and Atlanta prize fight promoter, when arraigned before Judge Samuel H. Sibley, in Federal Court Monday morning on charges of violating his parole, was given two sentences of six months each, and two fines of \$500.

The sentences are to run concurrently, Judge Sibley stipulated, but he must pay the total fine of \$1,000. 11-13-30

Gewinner pleaded guilty in Federal Court about two years ago to charges of defrauding the government on the taxes from fights which he promoted. He was ordered to make restitution to the government at the rate of \$50 per month, and was placed on parole until the complete sum of approximately \$2,000 had been paid. It was brought out Monday morning that Gewinner had failed to make any payments in the past several months.

Gewinner will serve the jail sentence in the Fulton County Tower, Judge Sibley stated.



Ku Klux Klan - 1930

# THREATS CHARGED TO 'BLACK SHIRTS'

## Employers at Charter Hearing Relate Efforts To Oust Negro Help.

Testimony that persons representing themselves as "Black Shirt" members had demanded replacement of negro employees with white men, and threatened "loss of business" unless the demands were complied with, was introduced Monday at a hearing before Judge G. H. Howard, of Fulton superior court, on a petition of Holt J. Gewinner for charter for the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts.

William Reisman, of the Star Provision Company, testified that J. M. Pirkle telephoned him to request that a white driver be substituted for a negro in his community. The request was complied with immediately, Reisman stated, but he testified that Pirkle called him again and said he meant for every negro in the Star Provision Company employ to be replaced by a white man.

Upon refusal to meet this demand, Reisman stated, he was told he would "be sorry and will lose business" unless he did so.

A similar demand was made upon a downtown department store, other witnesses stated, declaring that they were approached by men professing to be members of the Black Shirts.

Efforts by Solicitor-General John A. Boykin to show that the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, has maintained a secret service and a personal bodyguard for Holt J. Gewinner, adjutant, and has created a military department and a military court, featured the hearing.

The hearing will be resumed at 9 o'clock this morning after an unsuccessful attempt Monday by Attorney Walter A. Sims, representing Gewinner, to block introduction of witnesses by Boykin and the law firm of Murrell & Murrell, representing the American Fascisti organization, incorporated in Orlando, Fla., by James Venable, J. O. Wood and others.

In asking the court to hear from him as the grand jury's representative, Boykin pointed out that the power to grant charters is an authority delegated to the court by the legislature in order to save that body's time. Sims declared that he believes the court's duty in the matter is purely ministerial, and that the court has no right to go behind the application for charter.

Judge Howard ruled that he could

go into an investigation of the matter to determine whether the organization comes within the purview of the law and whether incorporation of the organization would be in the interests of society.

As the court adjourned for the day, Boykin was engaged in examination with regard to the alleged military department and alleged military court.

## "BLACK SHIRT" ORDER HAS 200 CHARLOTTE MEMBERS.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Oct. 13.—(AP) The American Association of Black Shirts, originated in Atlanta, has between 200 and 300 members in Charlotte, March 14, 1930, lawyer, who said he spoke at two meetings of the organization during the week, declared today.

T. H. Lamar, who said he was organizer for North Carolina, said 60,000 applications for membership had been received in recent weeks.

The purpose of the order, Lamar said, is to oppose communism.

# BLACK SHIRTS DENIED CHARTER

## Howard Enjoins Georgia Operations; White Revealed as Organizer.

All "Black Shirt" or "fascisti" operations in Georgia were enjoined and a charter in this state denied to the Holt J. Gewinner organization by Superior Court Judge G. H. Howard Friday.

The hearing Friday morning brought out testimony that Jacking White, convicted on a bribery charge in the municipal graft investigation, was an organizer of the Gewinner group in the states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Judge Howard's order, in addition to restraining Gewinner's organization from operating as "American Fascisti" or under any similar name, also enjoins the Florida incorporated "fascisti" of J. O. Wood and others from operating in this state.

Under the evidence, Judge Howard held, the term "white supremacy" was so misunderstood and the purposes stated in the petition were so construed that the powers sought to be conferred by a charter would authorize both legal and illegal acts.

An outburst of laughter in the courtroom Friday morning nearly caused Judge Howard to finish the hearing in private chambers. Attorney Walter A. Sims, representing Gewinner, asked R. S. Gullledge, a former leader in the order, for certain specific facts about expenditures on trips to Athens, and when Gullledge could not give definite amounts spent

for sandwiches, lunches, etc., Sims asked if his failure to keep an account was not the same thing he was charging Gewinner with. The audience laughed, and Judge Howard said he would hear the rest of the case in chambers. Sims told the court he was sure that the crowd would not make another demonstration, and Judge Howard consented to complete the matter in open court.

The charter petition was opposed vigorously by Solicitor-General John A. Boykin on behalf of the grand jury, which had adopted resolutions condemning the "Black Shirt" organization as inimical to the public good. Boykin termed the order a "money-grabbing" organization and charged that Gewinner's purpose was to get a lot of money by offering jobs, by replacing negroes, to unemployed white men who obtained membership cards at \$1 each.

Of course, thoughtful Negroes here realize that this matter of protecting the white race is, after all, only what they call a racket in Chicago. Ignorant, neurotic whites are at the helm of this funny Fascisti, and of the newspaper, called the Black Shirt. Some cunning white brother has conceived the idea of making money out of his less cunning brothers by indicating to them the peril which exists for them in the activities of Negroes.

At the present time the attention of Georgia's white trash is being centered on the agitation brought out testimony that Jacking White, convicted on a bribery charge in the municipal graft investigation, was an organizer of the Gewinner group in the states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

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General.

last paragraph carefully. You note that therein special stress is placed on the fact that the woman involved was extremely pretty. The insolence of that article is enough to cause any white man's blood to boil. We want the Pittsburgh Courier prohibited from the streets of this city. If legal action should be taken, these radical, indecent Negro newspapers would never be allowed to sell their trash in the city of Atlanta.

"We are not trying to stir up racial trouble. We want to prevent racial trouble. The first step to take is to stop the foreign agencies from filling the ignorant Negro full of rotten propaganda. It looks like somebody is trying to put foolish ideas in our Negroes' heads, and are trying to stir up discontent among them."

In the following paragraphs, the militant American Fascisti explain their purpose in life.

"The American Fascisti, sometimes called the Black Shirts, are Anti-Communist. We hope to drive the Reds and Communists out of our country. They are desecrating our flag, lowering the standards of the white race, instilling insurrection and treason in our good Negroes. They are preaching the gospel of "red Russia" to the ignorant whites and stirring up dissension among the textile workers and other laborers in the South. Their recent activities in Gastonia, N. C. prove beyond any question of doubt that they are the greatest menace to this country that we have ever known."

"We do not favor mob rule. We are sworn to uphold the laws of our state and country. We do favor sensible legislation and honest government—by white people. We are organized for the purpose of supporting our government, our constitution, and the laws of the land."

"We believe in white supremacy and the employment of white men in preference to the Negro. The Negro Newspapers," but does not fail to carry it himself. He then concludes:

"The above article is taken from the Pittsburgh Courier: Read the white merchant. Why shouldn't we protect ourselves and our families by organizing the Negro help

with the white unemployed?

"Have you ever seen a white man employed by a Negro?"

"No, you have not. You might say that a white man would not work for a Negro. But you are mistaken. There are white men in this city today who haven't had work in months. There are white families in this city that haven't had food in two or three days. They haven't been willing to do anything to earn an honest dollar. We must provide sufficient clothing. They would be

work for these people some way or another. They are just the ones the Reds and communists are preying upon. The Reds take advantage of a man's hunger to enroll him in their organization and to preach rebellion to him."

"We do not intend to try to force anyone to do anything against their will. We intend to take peaceful methods to gain our objective. We now appeal to you white employers—employ white men instead of Negroes. Replace Negro labor with white where practical and within the bounds of reason."

"We believe in the protection of our homes and the chastity of American womanhood. There are men in this city who call themselves white men—yet allow their wives and daughters to intermingle with Negroes. They allow their wives and daughters to attend Negro social gatherings and business meetings of various Negro organizations. By so doing, they lower their standards to the level of the Negro with whom they gather. We are opposed to this practice. We are superior to the Negro."

*Macon Telegraph*  
*The Dying Klan*  
*Macon, Ga.*

Those who have given it a thought in recent months have wondered what happened to the Ku Klux Klan. The magnificent Colonial home on Peachtree road, through which goblins and emperors and wizards used to walk in all their state dignity and financial opulence, has been converted into an apartment house and the Klan is reputed to have sold its holdings in Atlanta. Nor does one hear, in these days, of any political activity on the part of the organization.

The Washington Post, in a copyrighted article, tells where the Klan has gone: to where the woodbine twineth and the dodo bird whistles his sweetest. In other words, it is



no more—or virtually so. According to the Post, the Klan had initiated—and of course, had collected the initiation fee, which was always important—up to 1925, 8,904,871 members. In 1924, it was able to prevent the nomination of Al Smith as Democratic candidate for the presidency, although unable, in the same convention, to put McAdoo over.

From the next year, however, its strength began to wane. By the end of 1926, its membership had fallen to 2,006,181. In 1927, the membership fell to 321,411 and this year it has 34,694 persons on its rolls. The figures for Georgia are not available, but it is probable that the organization has no more than 2,000 member in this state.

The chief purpose the Klan served was to raise a vast amount of money from the people of the country. As long as Edward Young Clarke was directing the propaganda and advertising, the money continued to flow in. The Post estimates that the Klan collected \$90,000,000. When Clarke and Simmons were ousted five years ago, Dr. Hiram Wesley Evans was not able to keep the fires going under the prejudiced and the fearful and they grey cold. The Klan is dying a natural, slow death. It will go down in history as one of our ugliest manifestations of intolerance and prejudice and hysteria, as alien to American ideals as anything possibly could be.

### NO ROOM FOR FASCISTI

**A** SUPERIOR court judge in Georgia has ruled that an application to charter the American Fascisti Order of Black Shirts should be denied because the organization seeks legal authority to do illegal acts. The judge might have gone further to declare that there is nothing in the spirit of American institutions that calls for the planting here of Fascism, which now has Italy in its grip and is threatening Germany.

This Fascisti order appears to have invaded North Carolina and has set up at Charlotte for the ostensible purpose of fighting back at the Communists. There may be times when it is advisable to fight fire with fire, but we have never quite understood that this meant to oppose evil with evil. Communism proposes to destroy representative government under the guise of pure democracy. Fascisti would destroy representative government by the power of organized might. Neither of these ideas concedes the right of freedom to the individual. If there is one outstand-

ing strength in what we know as American principles of government it is recognition of the rights of the individual to do a little thinking for himself. No rank and file Communist or Fascisti is entitled to any such privilege. Neither red flags nor black shirts have any place in real American life and it will be a sad day for America if either of these notions should take strong hold in this country.

## Klansmen, 9 Million Strong In 1925, Only 35,000 Today Newspaper Says Order Is on Last Legs, as Former Members Expose It as "Big Business"

From The World's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—The Ku Klux Klan, a powerful political factor in some states five years ago, is now on its last legs, the Washington Post will say in a copyrighted story tomorrow. This information, it is explained, comes from an "authoritative source."

Figures compiled show that the membership, which had climbed to about 9,000,000 in 1925, has dwindled to less than 35,000 in 1930. It is estimated that up to 1925 the klan had collected in fees more than \$90,000,000.

The Ku Klux Klan, which backed William Gibbs McAdoo for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency in 1924, played an important part in the national convention in New York.

"Today a crumbling shell of juggernaut skidding dizzily toward oblivion, the klan makes a last desperate stand," the Post will say. "Casting a faltering shadow athwart the ballot box to exact tribute for a political power exposed as colossal myth and ruling a vanishing domain, fantastically small even now, it is dying."

Former members of the Invisible Empire, says the story, want to expose it as a great money making organization for the benefit of a few head men. They assert that it is a shining example of big business. Millions of men who belonged to the order have never been able to learn just how much money was taken during the days of prosperity or where it went. The sums paid out in salaries to the Imperial Wizard and his lieutenants are not listed.

Channels for a highly remunerative

inflow of funds came from the higher degrees of "knight kamelia," for which more than a million knights paid \$5 each, and that of "knight of the great forest," which numbered some 86,000 members. Since its incorporation in Georgia in 1920, with its citadel at Atlanta, the klan is estimated to have received more than \$10,000,000 annually from these two elevated rank sources alone.

Clarke Was Father of Idea

Edward Young Clarke of Atlanta was first to see the possibilities in the klan movement. Col. William Joseph Simmons, who conceived the idea to organize something on the order of the original K. K. K. and who struggled along for years making spread-eagle speeches and struggling for financial existence, accepted an offer of Mr. Clarke to make the klan a "business success." Clark was to propagate and Simmons to operate the klan. Being an expert advertiser and organizer, Clarke soon put the klan on its financial feet. A controversy that came later resulted in the elimination of Clarke and Simmons and the promotion of Dr. Hiram W. Evans, a Texas dentist. Evans took the klan over at its most prosperous period but was not able to keep going the steady flow of money started by Clarke.

Figures given to the Post today purport to show for the first time the extent of the rise and fall of the klan.

By 1925 the membership of the order had reached a total of 8,904,871, but after that it commenced to fade. This number represented all persons initiated up to that year. It was about the time the Imperial Wizard Evans made a demonstration in Washington and announced that from then on the klan would discard its hoods and other disguises. By the last of 1926 the membership had fallen to 2,006,181. The membership fell rapidly after that. It was 321,411 in 1927, 145,469 in 1928, 82,602 in 1929 and 34,694 in 1930.

In 1925 New York State had 300,429 klansmen; in 1926, 44,449; 1927, 16,873; 1928, 13,887; 1929, 6,819, and 1930, 2,760.

### THE MORIBUND KLAN

The Washington Post's copyrighted report on the state of the Ku Klux Klan is declared to be based on information obtained from "an authoritative source." Apparently the names of the authorities have been withheld, although naturally the Post assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information. In important details that information, as published, is precise rather than general. Thus the membership of the Klan is announced as having reached 8,904,871 in 1925, said to be the high water year, and its membership in 1930 is reported as 34,794.

Figures are announced for the intervening years, both for the Klan and for the higher degrees within the Klan. The financial report appears less exact. Income from fees up to 1925 is placed at approximately \$90,000,000, which would seem to have been arrived at by multiplying the number of members by \$10, the generally reported initiation fee.

How accurate this survey is the Virginian-Pilot is unable to say. A reasonable estimate, it seems to us, would hold the membership at the high water mark considerably below the approximately 9,000,000 credited to it in 1925 and considerably above 35,000, said to be its present strength. But there can be no question about the substantial accuracy of the conclusion which the Post draws from these figures—that the Klan "is dying". For national political purposes it is already dead. Save in Alabama, where the Heflin campaigns were based largely on the old hatreds, virtually no indications of klan activity have been noted in the elections this year. State after state can be cited where once the Klan was vocative and conspicuous but where now it plays no part.

The Klan phenomenon is for future historians to dissect. They will dig out the facts, study the underlying causes and publish fascinating accounts of this manifestation of mass psychology. As the world recedes from the post-war moods it understands them better. The fierce nationalism, the racial hatreds, the chauvinistic emotionalism and the lesson of direct action, all engendered in that conflict, manifested themselves in many ways. An analogy can be found between American kluxery and Italian Fascism, although the latter developed in a different form. The present Hitler movement in Germany is of the same genre. For that matter, the history of many countries shows organizations of the same sort, each shaped in part by local influences but all growing out of the same psychological background. The immediate point, which such a survey as the Washington Post's was not needed to make clear, is that the United States has, for practical purposes, got rid of the Ku Klux Klan. That is progress for which the country has reason to be grateful.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.



Ku Klux Klan - 1930.

# Ku Klux Membership Falls From 8,904,871 In 1925 to 34,694 Now

*Washington Post*

11-2-30

Vaunted Political Power of Klan Has Become

Myth. Funds of Over \$100,000,000 Collected—

District of Columbia Klansmen Have Shrunk

From 15,133 to 124.

*Washington, D.C.*

(Copyright, 1930, by The Washington Post.)

Once the world's most high-powered "racket," today a crumbling shell of a juggernaut skidding dizzily toward oblivion, the Ku Klux Klan in the Nation makes its last desperate stand, casting a faltering shadow athwart the ballot box to exact tribute for a political power exposed now as a colossal myth and ruling a vanishing domain, fantastically small even now.

An "invisible empire" no longer, the shroud of secrecy and fanaticism in which it enveloped itself as a gigantic sham has been stripped away to bare a gaunt hulk of an order making a dying gesture with a membership that stood at exactly 34,694 throughout the land when the last canvass was made in its realm on June 30, 1930.

The figure, backed indisputably by a mass of statistics revealing the true picture of the declining "hooded order" in virtually every State of the Union and the District of Columbia this year and annually since its halcyon days of 1925, came from an authoritative source.

Yet it stands out conspicuously as one of the biggest money makers of all time, a shining example of big business in a big way; so big, in fact, that the millions of knights who made obeisance to the klan never were able to learn from Imperial Wizard Hiram W. Evans and his secret circle just how the books of the outfit stood. Few of them know the answer today, and fewer still know what became of the fabulous wealth it amassed.

Near 9,000,000 in 1925.

In the heyday of its glory, in 1925, about the time thousands of its subjects stormed Washington to stage a monster parade and celebration, the Klan had taken in almost 9,000,000 members—exactly 8,904,871, a figure placed the number of robe wearers at now disclosed publicly for the first almost half the number of members. time, and a peak of actual paid-in members defying the most optimistic estimates of even its own followers. In the same year it flourished in the District with an all-time high mark of 15,133 members.

Since each recruit to its ranks paid \$10 initiation fee, a golden stream of almost \$90,000,000 had coursed into its bulging coffers by the latter part

ally from these two elevated rank sources alone.

Suits Seek Accounting.

What became of all this money? Reiterated requests for a real accounting of receipts and disbursements, suits entered by certain knights occasionally to require an audit, secessions of entire local klans and threats of division went fruitless. The only statement ever given to the membership presented a mere recital of assets and liabilities.

The amount of money "cut back" as bonus to the Grand Dragons as rulers in their States, the salaries paid to the imperial wizard, the salaries paid to members of his imperial kloncilium, the inner circle, the monies dispensed to the organizers or the grand titans, and the other financial activities still remain a closed book, except to the select handful of leaders who still operate behind a tumbling "front."

Staging a sensational rise to its high watermark in 1925, the Klan began slipping fast on the heels of a manifest autocratic rule, and a multiplicity of other stench-provoking causes.

While exact figures prior to 1925 are not available, the figures for that peak year, the highest tide of Klan prosperity, bare the fact that Michigan held a dominating membership of 875,130, a mark representing the paid-in members during the several years of its history through that year which is regarded as falling very close to the exact active membership at the time.

720,220 in New Jersey.

New Jersey, scene of Klan riots and disorders in the same year of 1925, came second in numbers with 720,220. Texas, generally regarded as one of the Southern strongholds of the order, led the South only in that year with 450,000. Next came Kentucky with 441,560 and Ohio with 400,000.

In the wake of the strife engendered across the whole sweep of the Nation against the rule of the Klan in 1925, after the "Bloody Williamson" episode in Indiana, the wave of reaction that set in against lawless occurrences, and no less than the thinly-veiled thrust against the organization by President Coolidge in a plea at Omaha, Nebr., in October of that year for religious tolerance, an astounding slump to 2,006,181 members resulted in 1926.

Dropping with a tremendous loss, Michigan nevertheless kept the lead in 1926 with 191,469 members, followed by Florida with 142,314 members, and Illinois, scene of the famous Herrin riots, third, with 114,327. In the same year Virginia saw a terrific drop to 15,881 from a membership of 169,630 the previous year. Maryland, enjoying a peak of 53,190 in 1925, experienced less of a drop in falling to 27,464 in 1926.

Drop Fast in 1927.

The year 1927 brought further sharp inroads into the membership, which declined to 321,411 over the Nation. Pennsylvania, far and away the leading State in klan members during the last three years, revealed its strength in 1927 when it ran a

close race for leadership with Michigan, numbering 31,435. In 1928, the klan, falling to 145,469 members, exploited its mythical political power to limits now seen as ridiculous. Throughout the length and breadth of the South, its influence had waned to a point where its strength, assumed as united, was insufficient to sway the election. Virginia klansmen, leading all Southern States, had an actual membership of 6,226 and Alabama was next with 5,524, while Pennsylvania had on its rolls 18,976 members, with the number privileged to vote highly questionable.

1929 was a terrible year for the klan. Even though Pennsylvania stood out in front again with 10,428 members, a wide gap stood between its runner-up, New York, with 6,819 knights.

Despite the fact that the impression has prevailed generally for a year or longer than the klan had suffered sharp setbacks, even while maintaining lobbyists on Capitol Hill, and seeking to inject itself into the limelight in the role of bogie man, its skeletonized bulk nevertheless has loomed as a menace.

34,694 Are Scattered.

If votes constitute its power, its power is a colossal myth, for its 34,694 members on June 30 were scattered across the Nation, and its actual command of ballots was highly problematical. Its members who make lip service likewise injected another angle.

In North Carolina, long regarded as a hotbed of klansmen, the order had on its books on June 30 exactly 107 paying members, and it fell considerably short of being the lowest ranking State in the list. Pennsylvania totals 4,279 to lead all States. Virginia had a paltry 1,593 members, Maryland 516, and the District exactly 124.

Holding tenaciously to the semblance of its former power, the klan has performed a bit of the wizardry it incorporated into its high-sounding titles by maintaining a lobby here that bobbed up in an effort to capitalize on its backing of United States Circuit Court Justice John J. Parker, of North Carolina, during the fight waged in the Senate over his rejection for the Supreme Court bench.

While its policy regarding Judge Parker fell beyond the pale of its customary 100 per cent Americanism exploits, the activity of the imperial wizard even now in lending public support to one of the two Catholic candidates in Montana hasn't reconciled itself to many klansmen, notably the knights in the District. Many here already have seceded, and the policy of consolidating several States under a single grand dragon has been invoked here and throughout the Nation to cut expenses as numbers dwindled.

Rocking along toward extinction, the Klan puts up its most brazen front, still wielding within its tightening ranks an autocratic power that would put to shame a Romanoff or a Hapsburg. Despite the fact that the Klan constitution stipulates that an imperial wizard shall be elected every four years, a change is virtually impossible unless Dr. Evans chooses to retire. Since he appoints all grand

dragons, the group which elects to the highest office in the realm in secret session, his rule is complete. In Chicago during the summer Dr. Evans was reelected after previously having canvassed the group to determine what sentiment, if any, prevailed against him.

General.



# STATISTICAL TABLE SHOWING AUTHENTIC RISE AND FALL OF THE INVISIBLE EMPIRE

State	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Alabama	115,910	91,301	10,431	5,524	3,213	1,349
Alaska		31	64	103	23	17
Arizona	5,001	2,231	946	310	73	31
Arkansas	150,000	72,436	1,439	50	198	83
California	350,000	122,324	7,467	4,334	2,732	1,148
Canal Zone			187	148	108	46
Colorado	126,930	63,214	16,430	2,304	993	417
Connecticut	65,590	21,347	2,144	1,666	1,077	453
Delaware	20,000	9,413	3,146	493	415	194
District of Columbia	15,133	4,324	922	371	294	124
Florida	391,040	142,314	11,349	4,640	2,914	1,224
Georgia	156,010	46,016	7,442	4,600	3,490	1,466
Idaho	30,000	17,111	352			
Illinois	300,324	114,327	21,433	8,816	4,300	1,806
Indiana	200,000	97,433	12,441	3,504	1,437	604
Iowa	250,021	111,621	9,679	4,101	2,745	1,152
Kansas	150,000	41,363	5,898	1,824	2,341	983
Kentucky	441,560	110,321	16,477	1,911	1,110	466
Louisiana	50,000	6,439	1,123	886	635	256
Maine	150,141	61,436	3,168	933	537	226
Maryland	53,190	27,464	2,244	1,114	1,227	516
Massachusetts	130,780	91,324	11,545	3,321	1,714	720
Michigan	875,130	191,469	31,435	5,943	2,887	1,213
Minnesota	65,000	22,466	3,767	1,582	755	317
Mississippi	93,040	11,005	1,915	538	48	21
Missouri	175,000	60,997	4,441	2,429	1,293	585
Montana	40,100	9,548	1,981	891	316	133
Nebraska	352,110	11,456	8,144	7,435	1,521	1,899
Nevada	1,003	322	105	67	23	10
New Hampshire	75,000	2,101	439	95	296	124
New Jersey	720,220	61,546	14,554	7,135	4,160	1,747
New Mexico	5,311	941	933	298	236	101
New York	390,429	44,449	16,873	13,881	6,819	2,760
North Carolina	129,410	12,595	3,188	1,912	270	107
North Dakota	50,000	9,420	1,191	334	197	83
Ohio	400,000	33,666	3,993	10,114	5,629	2,464
Oklahoma	289,550	11,678	4,662	1,987	1,152	480
Oregon	150,000	9,997	1,115	581	204	86
Pennsylvania	300,000	71,117	31,099	18,976	10,428	4,279
Rhode Island	21,321	4,666	2,121	593	415	174
South Carolina	200,641	21,445	4,454	990	359	151
South Dakota	54,329	9,111	1,179	417	265	111
Tennessee	163,980	11,887	1,915	305	223	94
Texas	450,000	79,878	11,891	2,487	1,620	780
Utah	20,000	1,187	837	16	10	
Vermont	80,301	2,982	2,176	405	332	140
Virginia	169,630	15,881	8,996	6,226	3,793	1,593
Washington	150,000	11,790	3,139	2,532	1,117	469
West Virginia	75,903	6,798	4,156	3,818	2,082	874
Wisconsin	220,850	16,986	3,483	2,236	1,372	576
Wyoming	24,989	1,114	986	287	99	42
Totals	8,904,871	2,006,181	321,411	145,469	82,602	34,694

The figure for 1925 shows the total number of members admitted to the klan from its formation to that date. The figures for 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 show the actual membership in good standing for each of those years.

(Copyright, 1930, The Washington Post.)

MACON, GA.  
TELEGRAPH

AUG 24 1930

## At a Dollar a Head

On the front page of today's paper, John Hammond tells something of the order that is known as the American Fascisti Association and Order of Blackshirts, which is indigenous to Atlanta.

The order claims to have obtained 21,380 members in three weeks, at \$1 a head. One of the organizers was J. O. Wood, formerly prominent in Klan circles, former editor of the Searchlight, organ of the Klan and one-time candidate for governor. He has retired from that organization, Mr. Hammond hears.

The American Fascisti Association and Order of Blackshirts, to give it the dignity of its full name, will admit to membership anybody who is 18 and native-born white, provided, of course, he has a dollar. In that, it differs from the Ku Klux Klan, which would not admit persons under 21 and not even then if they happened to be Catholics or Jews.

The purpose of the American Fascisti very frankly is to take jobs away from Negroes and give them to white persons. Mr. Hammond explains how they propose to do that, but in a word, they propose to do it chiefly by demanding that anybody who is employing Negroes shall get rid of them and give the jobs to white men.

The American Fascisti is a blood brother to the Ku Klux Klan and to the Supreme Kingdom and to Essekay and all those other grandiloquent orders which have originated in Atlanta in the fertile minds of the best aggregation of sucker tappers that has ever foregathered in one place in America. All of them capitalize some particular form of prejudice. Those who are smart enough to live by their ideas watch for signs of discontent on the part of the populace and then bleed the suckers to make them pay for their discontent.

After the field has been made fertile in Georgia by the Frank case and by Tom Watson's years of editorial effort, the Ku Klux Klan jumped up and bloomed overnight like a century plant. Millions came into its coffers in return for Chattahoochee river water and night shirts with symbols painted on them. By paying \$10 or more, one could acquire a superiority complex and parade in a night shirt and mask. Since the country seemed to be going to the devil at the time, one could also get a license to regulate the morals of anybody who was not behaving to suit him. But it was particularly the Catholics and Jews and Negroes who offended the

Klansmen. What they ever proposed to do about those great elements of our population never became quite clear but at least the suckers thought enough of it to pour millions into Klan headquarters until their enthusiasm died out amidst the internal rows of the Klan.

When a four-eyed, innocent-looking young school teacher up in Tennessee admitted teaching the theory of evolution to his students, the Supreme Kingdom emerged full-armed from the mind of Edward Young Clarke to fight "the accursed evils, atheism and evolution." Edward Young was going like a house afire until the dampened ardor of the suckers put the fire out. It cost the suckers plenty, however, to discover that Edward could not do much toward saving the nation.

The American Fascisti is the latest of the nation savers. Arising out of economic discontent and unemployment, it is going to give the country back to the white men. How, nobody knows and apparently, 21,380 persons do not care, as long as they are given the

privilege of paying a dollar each for a grandstand seat. It has not occurred, apparently, to any of the 21,380 who have paid up that economic problems are not settled by manifestations of prejudice; that depriving Southern Negroes of jobs is a two-edged sword that also deprives them of buying power and creates more unemployment and greater necessity for tax money to take care of them at public expense. Nor, apparently, has it occurred to any of these Fascisti that the Negroes also have recourse to a weapon to wield against the merchant who takes them off his trucks and off his janitor's brooms; they also have the power of boycotting.

Of all the ideas that ever came out of Atlanta—and Atlanta has been the most fertile of American cities in the production of sucker-taking notions—the American Fascisti Association and Order of Blackshirts is probably the most fantastic and the most puerile. The discouraging thing about it is that we have even 21,380 persons among our more than 3,000,000, who believe they can save the nation by taking jobs away from Negroes.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

Georgia

Kingsport, N. C. Press  
Tuesday, September 9, 1930

**"The American Black Shirts"** correctly, and were "ignorant ever of the correct pronunciation of the name they were seeking to use."

GEORGIA has the joining habit, it appears to the Asheville Times. Patriotic societies have a habit of springing up there, and there are too many bad angles to these organizations. We quote the Times:

"Since it has required only a few weeks for the 'Black Shirt' organization of Atlanta, the so-called American Fascist Association, to subject itself to inquiry by a Federal Grand Jury, it is well to compare professed objects of the association with alleged results.

"It is charged that committees from the order have called upon Atlanta business firms and demanded the discharge of negro employees. Such action is a crime under the statutes forbidding any interference with citizens in the free exercise and enjoyment of rights guaranteed to them under the Constitution.

"Now for the declaration of lofty purposes set forth by the Georgia Black Shirts. In its charter not yet acted upon, the association proposes to 'inculcate and foster in the minds of its members and the public generally white supremacy; charity among its members; obedience to law and order;' to 'disseminate patriotism and loyalty to the Government of the United States' and 'to assist its members in securing employment.'"

"According to the presentments reported to be ready for grand jury inquiry, the Black Shirts' charity begins and ends at home. Their obedience and loyalty to the Government of the United States, their devotion to law and order, do not stand in the way of seeking employment for their members by making threats and exerting pressure forbidden by the laws to which fervent lip service has been rendered.

"Who has sinned, Georgia or American civilization in general, that Georgia should be the birthplace of so many organizations born blind to the evils of invisible despotism operating under the guise of patriotic societies?"

Johnson City, Tenn. Chronicle  
Thursday, September 11, 1930

### "FACISM"

It is entertaining to read that a Fascist in Atlanta has sought and obtained a court order restraining issuance of a carter for an "American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts." He did this because he considered himself a better follower of Mussolini than the crowd wanting the charter. He objected that the defendants didn't spell the name "Fascist"

This is probably as grievous an offense as it would be for a bunch of upstart Communists to spell their faith "Comunism." Which most of them would be quite capable of doing.

However they spell, we want neither Black Shirts nor Red Shirts in this country. Our faith is in the old American ideal of as much individual freedom as society can stand, with no bossing either from a dictator at the top or a mob at the bottom.

117 SUN

SEP 18 1930

## THE QUESTION SPLITS GEORGIA

Farmers Seek Negroes to  
Cultivate Cotton.

RETURN OPPOSED IN CITIES

Black Shirt Activity for White  
Supremacy Arouses Press.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

MACON, Ga., Sept. 18.—While the whole State of Georgia has been split into two armed camps by the recent election, the commonwealth also is shaken by a division over the question of the Negro. The farming districts are warmly espousing the cause of the Negro, while the cities are making war on the race with a bitterness hat has called out protests from such influential newspapers as the Atlanta Constitution.

A few years ago there was a great trek of the colored population to the Northern States, and as a result the wide cotton fields in the Southern part of the State have suffered badly from a lack of experienced labor.

Just how it all came about is still a matter of dispute. One faction insists that the Negroes were driven out by threats, while the opposing faction argues that they were lured away by the steel barons and others of the North who looked with wistful eyes upon the great mass of cheap labor that lay just beyond their reach.

Whatever may have been the real cause of the Negro migration, the result has been to a large degree disastrous to the farming interests of the State as is seen in the fact that the cotton crop, which has in many years far exceeded 2,000,000 bales, will fall considerably below 1,500,000 bales.

### Cotton Crop Falls Off.

How great is the meaning of this falling off will be understood when it is realized that the cotton crop is far and away the biggest source of wealth to the commonwealth. And most of this wealth was directly due to the Negro and his mule. A large part of the cotton land is habitually rented out on shares to the Negro and now that he is becoming a scarce commodity his absence is seen in the dwindling crops.

Because of this the farmers are banded closely in an effort to lure the Negro labor back. Agents have been sent to the Northern States to recruit labor and all sorts of inducements have been held out to get old hands to return to their jobs of cultivating the cotton and the corn. Thus far but little headway has been made but stronger efforts are being promised in the future.

Friends of the Negro point to the fact that while Florida, Alabama, North Carolina and other surrounding Southern States showed in their last census large increases in their populations, the State of Georgia increased but a trifle more than 8,000 in the decade from 1920 to 1930. If it had not been for the abnormal growth of the city of Atlanta, the State as a whole would have shown a falling off of several thousands. This they insist was due almost entirely to the driving out of the Negro and the consequent drop in the staple crop of the farming districts.

The only remedy that they are able to visualize, they say, is the return of the Negro laborer and a complete change in the white man's attitude toward him. More cotton must be raised and by competent and experienced hands or the falling off in the population and wealth of the State will continue in the next ten years. White labor is expensive, and the Caucasian does not take kindly to the work of raising cotton where the heat is stifling and the hours of labor long and trying.

While the movement to get the Ne-

gro back is gaining in intensity, there is a strong counter trend in the cities of the State. Atlanta has evidently led the way, and other towns of considerable size are joining it. The work is being done under the direction of an organization called the "Black Shirts." They have grown in number very rapidly and are said to include some of the most prominent and influential men in their respective neighborhoods. At first they worked with the greatest secrecy, but at last their objects were discovered by persons on the outside.

So far as now known, the chief goal to be obtained is to prevent the employment of Negro labor, the excuse being that all available jobs at this time of business depression should be given to white workers. Their slogan has been: "No work for the Negro while the white man is die."

It has been the duty of the members of the Black Shirts to spread broadcast throughout the entire State and to warn all those who might see fit to hire the colored man. Threats have been indulged in and in some places a literal reign of terror has been inaugurated to intimidate employers.

### Newspapers Battle Movement.

The matter became so bad, especially in Atlanta, where the Black Shirts have their headquarters, that the Constitution took the matter up and denounced the objects of the leaders. Editorially the newspaper excoriated the association and demanded that the members cease their activity along the lines laid out. The whole thing, said this newspaper, is "un-American, uncivilized and un-Christian."

Other papers took up the matter, and the controversy raged bitterly on all sides. The whole affair has displeased the cotton planters who are anxious in every way to placate the leader who requested that his name be withheld, said today:

Negro in order to obtain his labor for the next crop. They have started an earnest protest which threatens to involve the entire Commonwealth.

Discussing the situation, one State "The so-called Black Shirts do not by any means represent the real sentiment of Georgia. Our best citizens almost without exception decry any action that would tend to debar the colored race from earning money with which to support themselves. The colored man is here, and it behooves us all to see that they are dependent upon them."

"Georgia, in the years to come, will need all the labor it can find and the wealth of the State depends so much upon the great cotton crop that the Negro labor is an absolute necessity."



## Black Shirt Parade

### Permit Is Refused *Constitution*

Mayor I. N. Ragsdale Friday formally denied the Black Shirts, of the Hoke Gewinner faction, the right to parade through Atlanta's streets on the night of October 3, stating as his reason a request from the Fulton county grand jury that the parade be forbidden. *9-27-30*

Several days ago Gewinner, as head of the organizational faction which he directs, asked for the privilege of parading in Atlanta, and the mayor took it under advisement. *9-27-30*

Friday, after the grand jury Thursday sent him a special resolution, which that body adopted unanimously, he directed a letter to Gewinner telling him the executive offices will not sanction the proposed parade.

The grand jury resolutions set out "There is no place in the life of this city" for any such organization.

In declining the parade right, the mayor pointed out that the grand jury is the legally established body for the purpose of preserving law and order, and that he was acting on their recommendation in the matter.

Earlier in the day Mr. Ragsdale addressed a letter to the grand jury telling it he would abide by their wishes.

## BLACK SHIRTS GET FLORIDA CHARTER

### Action of Wood Group Comes as Surprise to Gewinner.

#### *Constitution*

Charter for the "American Fascisti Order of Black Shirts" was granted in Orlando, Fla., Thursday incorporating the organization under the laws of that state. J. O. Wood, Henry J. Norton, James R. Venable, Raymond V. Berger and Thomas B. West, all of Atlanta, were named in the charter as officers. *9-25-30*

The Florida charter evidently came as a surprise to Holt J. Gewinner, head of an Atlanta Black Shirt organization which has filed application in Fulton superior court for a charter under the laws of the state of Georgia. Former Mayor Walter A. Sims, who filed the Fulton court application for Gewinner, said Thursday night that he did not know what steps Gewinner would take following the Orlando action. *Atlanta, Ga.*

It was reported that Wood and Venable had stolen a march on Gewinner and Sims and had forestalled any probability of action in Fulton superior court by obtaining the first legal charter and rights to the names "Fascisti" and "Black Shirts."

The announcement from Florida also brought into the open two "Black Shirt" organizations in Atlanta, the original Gewinner group and the new

Wood-Venable order, with Wood and Venable claiming that their order was the only one with a legal right to exist, enroll members and collect money for any purpose in connection with the "Fascists."

Another development in the "Black Shirts" tangle came Thursday afternoon when the Fulton county grand jury sent a letter to Mayor I. N. Ragsdale of the borough of Atlanta urging that a proposed parade of "Black Shirts" not be permitted in the borough limits.

Information from the mayor's office verified that a request for a permit had been pending "for several days." It was stated that the Gewinner group of "Fascisti" sought the permit.

Venable, who is listed in the Florida charter as treasurer of that organization, stated Thursday night that his order would not attempt to prevent any parade or organization plans of the Gewinner group "at the present time" for the reason, he explained, that "it would cause trouble."

He said that if the Gewinner group continued to solicit members, however, he would probably enjoin them within a couple of months. Wood, Venable said, is in Florida and is planning to organize the cities of Miami and Tampa. *Atlanta, Ga.*

Sims indicated that the application for a charter filed in Fulton superior court would take priority over that filed in Florida. He added that he did not know when he would present the matter to the court for determination. *9-25-30*

The present Fulton county grand jury has passed resolutions asking that the court not grant the Gewinner-Sims petition on the grounds that the order is not needed and that its efforts along organization lines have been against the public good.

Press dispatches from Orlando give the names of the incorporators of the Wood-Venable order as: Henry J. Norton, of Orlando (Norton has been known as an Atlantan), president; Raymond V. Berger and Thomas B. West, vice presidents; James O. Wood, secretary, and James R. Venable, treasurer, all of Atlanta.

The charter application sets out that the order is for the purpose of promoting white supremacy, obedience to law and order, engendering good fellowship and upholding the constitution, among other things.

Mr. Ragsdale would not comment on the communication from the grand jury on the proposed parade or on his intentions Thursday afternoon, but indicated he will take action today on a request which he admitted had been filed with him "several days ago."

Text of the letter which bore the signature of the Fulton county grand jury and was signed by John E. Smith, foreman, and Benjamin S. Barker, secretary, follows:

"The present Fulton county grand jury, as we understand it, is a legalized body constituted for law enforcement.

"We are informed that an organization in the city of Atlanta, known as the 'Black Shirts' or American Fascisti, has applied to you as mayor for a permit to stage a parade on the streets of Atlanta at an early date, and this letter is written you based on the unanimous vote of the Fulton county grand jury urging that you

deny this request." We base this action upon the following:

"We have sufficient evidence to convince us that the Black Shirt organization has no proper place in the life of this city, for the reason that it has inculcated fear in the hearts of some of our citizens and has created a spirit of unrest throughout the city.

"Someone has said that Americans have no objection to the Black Shirts of Italy or even the Red Shirts in Russia, but we insist that this particular kind of haberdashery be worn in the home land of fascism and not in America, as our people could be at better business than aping the reactionary institutions of Europe, and we coincide in this opinion.

"Another reason is that the mayors in Georgia cities such as Rome, Athens, Griffin, Newnan and other cities have refused to allow the Black Shirts to stage a parade in their respective cities, and surely they must have had good reasons for such action.

"This grand jury has already gone on record with the judges of the superior court of Fulton county, urging that a charter be denied the organization known as the Black Shirts, and our hope is that this request will be granted.

"We most respectfully urge that you refuse to allow the Black Shirts to parade on the streets of Atlanta, as we consider such action to be inimical to the best interests of this city."

### Order Of Black Shirts Denied Georgia Charter At Hearing In Atlanta

ATLANTA, GA., Oct. 17. (AP)—The American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, which petitioned for incorporation in Georgia and listed among its purposes the promotion of "white supremacy," was denied the charter in Fulton County Superior Court today. *10-18-30*

Judge G. H. Howard in denying the charter said that some acting members of the order apparently misunderstood the term "white supremacy" and had asked for a charter authorizing both "legal and illegal acts."

The American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, which was chartered at Orlando, Fla., and which intervened in the Fulton Court to oppose the charter for the Georgia Order was enjoined from operating in Fulton County.

The ruling said that an "examination of the petition for charter (by the Georgia order), shows that all powers sought and all the purposes set out with reference to the proposed rules and by-laws and with reference to promoting 'white supremacy' are not stated with such definiteness and certainty, in all respects, as to show that the granting of all such powers would be within the purview of the Constitution and laws of the State."

Evidence at the hearing showed that several Atlanta firms had been confronted with demands from the Black Shirts to discharge negro laborers and put white men in their places.

Memorandum News-Leader  
Thursday, September 18, 1930

### NATION'S PRESS.

The American Fascisti, otherwise known as the Georgia Black Shirt, appear to be fading out. The order's claim to a membership of 27,000 is regarded in informed quarters as highly dubious, and there is no evidence, that initiates are pouring in.

In view of the prodigious success of the Ku Klux in Georgia a few years ago, this is at first glance surprising, especially as one can join the Black Shirts for a dollar, whereas it costs \$10 to get into the nightshirt parades of the Ku Klux Klan.

It is just conceivable, though, that this is exactly what is wrong. Such organizations are obvious boob-traps. Their reason for being is to separate suckers from their dough. But a sucker would much rather pay \$10 for a night-shirt than \$1 for a black shirt—otherwise he wouldn't be a sucker.

Perhaps the Georgia suckers feel that an organization that cannot sting them for more than a dollar must be a second-rate outfit. And the more one considers it, the more there seems to be in the theory.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

Asheville, N. C., Citizen  
Saturday, October 18, 1930

## FASCIST ORDER DENIED CHARTER

### Georgia Court Refuses Petition Of 'Black Shirt' Order

ATLANTA, Oct. 17. (AP)—The American Fascisti order of black shirts, which petitioned for incorporation in Georgia and listed among its purposes the promotion of "white supremacy" was denied a charter in Fulton county Superior court today.

Judge G. H. Howard, in denying the charter, said that some acting members of the order apparently misunderstood the term "white supremacy" and had petitioned for a charter authorizing "both legal and illegal acts."

The American Fascisti Order of Black Shirts, which was chartered at Orlando, Fla., and which intervened in Fulton county to oppose the charter for the Georgia order, was enjoined from operating in Fulton county.

The court ruling said that an "examination of the petition for charter by the Georgia order shows that all powers sought and all the purposes set out with reference to the proposed rules and by-laws and with reference to promoting 'white supremacy' are not stated with such definiteness and certainty, in all respects as to show that the granting

of all such powers would be within the purview of the constitution and laws of the State."

The charter was opposed by the Fulton county grand jury on the claim that there was no need for such an order in the community. The Florida organization claimed the Georgia order was a "colorful imitation and opposed the granting of the charter as intervenor."

Evidence at the hearing showed that several Atlanta firms had been confronted with demands from the Black Shirts to discharge negro laborers and put white men in their places



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

# Oust Negro From Jobs Order Requires \$1 Membership Fee

**Black-Shirt Order  
Formed In Atlanta, Ga;  
21,800 Joined Already**

**Employers Warned To Discharge  
Negroes**

**WORSE THAN KLAN**

**Members Plan To Make "Hard  
Winter" For The Race**

(By John W. Hammond)

ATLANTA, Georgia—Twenty one thousand, eight hundred and thirty members in a period of three weeks at \$1 per member.

That's the real story behind the breaking out in Georgia of a new "patriotic," "America for the white man" organization which is out-klanning the Ku Klux Klan.

Lots of mystery and secrecy surround the whole thing, but there is no secret to the fact that the halls and corridors leading to the little back office of its takers-in are congested nearly all day long with throngs of young white men clamoring for "application blanks."

It is the "American Fascisti Association and Order of Blackskirts," with the home office and principal

place of business in Atlanta, but with branches in Macon, Savannah, Columbus, and, according to reports, one about to be opened in Knoxville, and Chattanooga.

**Charter Applied For**

A charter has been legally applied for, publication of notice of which has been carried in the Fulton Reporter, a journal which circulates among the legal profession, but not strictly speaking, a newspaper of general circulation. The application was made and notice thereof published Saturday, Aug. 9. At that time there had already been a big organization meeting at the Atlanta City Auditorium, where people mostly go to attend grand opera.

Then there was another big meeting out at Grant Park, and still another in East Point. All of them were heavily attended, and much enthusiasm was worked up on the promise that the organization is going to make it hard for any Negro to find any job, and that every place now held by a Negro in Georgia will soon be held by a white man, and the wages paid will be white man's wages.

Any white man 18 years of age or over can join the "Black Shirts" provided he is a native-born. In that respect it out-kluxes the original Kluxers, for they wouldn't take in Jews, Catholic or American-born citizens of foreign extraction.

This new organization is simply and solely an "Anti-Negro" organization, whose purpose is admitted to be that of putting Negroes out of all jobs, and putting white men in them. They deal largely, of course or will do so, with unskilled employment. For instance, one of the first things to be done was to "contact" certain large firms in Atlanta; one of them reported to be a large mercantile establishment, another a large general furniture and equipment house, another a large packing concern.

These are said to have been "served with notice" to get rid of their Negro truck drivers and put white people on their trucks. The claim is made that already more than 600 places have been filled in this way.

**Solely "Anti-Negro"**

The next step proposed by the "Black Shirts" is to "serve notice" on the hotels in Atlanta, and follow that with similar notices to all hotels in Georgia, to get rid of all Negro bell hops and porters, and put in white men. The organization will not demand, it is understood, that a list of unemployed white men which it will furnish be toused to select the employees but will ask that its members be given preference. At least, that's the plan in the beginning anyway.

**'Employment Bureau'**

No fee is required with the ap-

plication for membership, but when a membership card is issued in the applicant he is required to post a membership "fee" of \$1, which entitles him to be listed with the "Fascisti-Employment Bureau," and they will undertake to find him a job somewhere as quickly as possible. This dollar fee, it is understood, is to be the only charge while the organization is "building up," but after the first year of existence there will be assessed "monthly dues," of 10 cents per month on each member, in order to carry the expense of the maintenance of the central office or organization.

When the first meetings were being held, particularly that one on Grant Street, J. O. Wood, former Klan leader, former member of legislature, and once candidate for governor, was one of the "Fascisti" officials and speakers. Informants "cut," as are some of the others who were at first active in getting in the crowds.

**Former Macon Man**

The official application for charter shows that the incorporators are R. A. Gordon, familiarly known in Atlanta public life as "Bob," and candidate recently for the mayoralty; R. S. Gulledege, and Holt J. Gewinner formerly of Macon. The attorney applying for the charter is Col Walter A. Sims, former mayor of Atlanta.

At first, in fact until Saturday, the offices of the organization were at 218 Peters building, but the congestion at that place in the rather cramped hall way became such that it was necessary to move the "home office," and today it is located at 63 North Broad Street. At both places an observation of the situation disclosed a surprisingly large number of people standing in the hall awaiting an opening to get in to the "office" proper.

A few days ago one of the Peachtree clothing stores in Atlanta carried a display advertisement announcing that it had just received a large shipment of black shirts "the kind you have to have to join the Black Shirts." In the window of one of the large low-price chair stores on Peachtree street today there is a complete window display of black shirts at "marked down"

prices. Twice in the past two weeks the numbers of young men have been on the streets in Atlanta in the simple uniform—just the ordinary clothing, but a black shirt with no coat.

**"Hard Winter" Looms**

One man, who said he is a member, and who was very much impressed with the purpose of the organization, stated that "the Black Shirts" are going to make a pretty hard winter for Negroes in this state." He said "before Christmas there isn't going to be a black bell boy or a black truck driver on a job in Atlanta, and before the middle of next year there won't be one in a job in Georgia." His explanation was that "this is a white man's country and there are too many Negroes in jobs and too many white men out of jobs."

An interesting statement by him is that the "Fascisti," which he explained Mussolini has nothing to do with, is getting up a list of the vacant farms with tenant houses all over Georgia, and they are going to offer the Negroes an opportunity to go out in the country and rent those vacant farms and make a living if they want to.

**Progress Is Reported**

In fact, he claimed that already the "Fascisti," has been able to "get the Negroes out" in at least half a dozen business places in Atlanta, and that it is "plain to see we are going to be able to do the same thing in all the other cities in Georgia." The "work of the white man's organization," he said, will not be confined to this state, for already arrangements are being made to carry it over into at least two cities in Tennessee.

These details are not set out in the application to the courts for a charter, however. That document describes the organization as patriotic, with the right to assist its members in securing employment, to extend to them sick and other benefits, to fix the levy assessments and dues and to foster and inculcate the principle of white supremacy, obedience to the laws of the land, and to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Georgia.



Wacon, Ga. News  
Tuesday, August 26, 1930  
**Black Shirts Begin  
Publishing Own  
Newspaper**

AUG 8 1 1930

## THREATS ATTRIBUTED TO GEORGIA FASCISTI

**Inquiry by Federal Grand Jury  
Into Alleged Intimidation of  
Negroes Reported at  
Atlanta.**

ATLANTA, Aug. 30 (AP).—The Atlanta Constitution, quoting an unnamed official at the Federal Building, says that the activities of members of an organization recently formed here under the name of the "American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts" will be investigated by the Federal grand jury which convenes Sept. 8.

The official is quoted as saying that evidence has been found that several Atlanta business firms employing Negro labor have been called upon by committees from the organization who demanded that the Negroes be discharged and said that if the demand were not complied with trouble might be expected.

Such action, the official said, was in direct violation of a statute providing penalties up to ten years imprisonment and \$5,000 fine for persons who "conspire to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise of enjoyment of any right guaranteed to him by the Constitution and laws of the United States, or because of his having exercised the same."

The story says that stenographic reports of addresses made at meetings of the "Black Shirt" organization, some of which have been "highly sensational and incendiary as to threats made," will be presented to the grand jury, along with names of some of the business firms alleged to have been called on by committees, and in some cases the names of the committeemen.

The "Black Shirt" organization has on file in Fulton County Superior Court a petition for a charter, not yet acted upon, in which it sets up, among others, the purposes "to inculcate and foster in the minds of its members and the public generally, white supremacy; charity among its members and obedience to law and order; to disseminate patriotism and loyalty to the government of the United States" and "to assist its members in securing employment."

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 26. (GPS).—"The Black Shirt," official organ of the American Facisti, with publication office at 63 North Broad street, in Atlanta, is the latest newspaper to make its appearance here. In a front page editorial, the paper, which is issued as a weekly, says the American Facisti was organized in Atlanta two months ago and since that time there have been accepted into the organization more than 19,000 members.

"The American Facisti, sometimes called the Black Shirts, are anti-Communist," the paper editorially declares. "We hope to drive the Reds and Communists out of our country. They are desecrating our flag, lowering the standards of our white race, instilling insurrection and treason in our good Negroes. They are preaching the gospel of 'red Russia' to the ignorant whites and stirring up dissension among the textile workers and other laborers in the South."

The advertising columns of the new weekly are well patronized by local firms, in addition to announcements of candidates for county and state offices. The masthead says it is "Edited by the Editorial Committee."

## 'BLACK SHIRTS' ANNOUNCE CODE

**Prime Purpose of Organization  
Said to Fight Against  
Communism.**

The Atlanta Black Shirts, in the first public statement issued from their headquarters, Saturday denied charges that have been made against the order as contained in resolutions adopted by the Fulton grand jury Friday.

In a statement signed by H. J. Gewinner, as adjutant, it was maintained that "we are the negro's best friend so long as he stays in his place." It also was denied that any employer of labor had been approached with the proposition to discharge negroes and put white men in their places.

It said that when a job that a white man can do is open that a white man should be given the place. Beyond advocating that

principle, the paper said, the law and order" and to "disseminate prime purpose of the organization patriotism and loyalty to the government of the United States" and viks, the statement said, are created to "assist its members in securing employment."

The organization has petitioned the Fulton County Superior Court for a charter, but its issuance is held up by an injunction obtained by J. T. Lee. Judge Thomas will hear arguments on the injunction next Friday.

## U. S. GRAND JURY BE ASKED TO INVESTIGATE

**Demand for Discharge of Negro Labor in City  
Reported.**

Atlanta, Sept. 1.—Today's Constitution says evidence that committees of a newly formed organization known as the "American Facist Association and Order of Black Shirts" have demanded that Atlanta employers discharge negro labor will be placed before a federal grand jury convening September 8.

The newspaper quotes an unnamed official at the federal building as saying his information was that the committees told the employees that if the demand were not complied with trouble might be expected.

Such action the official said, was in direct violation of a statute providing penalties up to ten years imprisonment and \$5,000 fine for persons "who conspire to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right guaranteed to him by the constitution or laws of the United States or because of his having exercised the same."

The story says stenographic reports of addresses made at meetings on the "Black Shirt" organization, some of which have been "highly sensational and incendiary as to threats made" will be presented to the grand jury along with names of some of the business firms alleged to have been called on by committees and in some cases the names of the committeemen.

In a petition of incorporation filed in Fulton superior court August 8, but not yet acted upon, the "Black Shirts" organization sets up, among others, the purpose "to inculcate and foster in the minds of its members and the public generally, white supremacy; charity among its members; obedience to

## Grand Jury Of Fulton County Passes Resolution Condemning 'Blackshirts'

ATLANTA, GA., Sept. 5.—(AP)—A resolution condemning the American Facisti or the order of "Blackshirts," and appealing to the Fulton County Superior Court to refuse a charter to the organization, was passed unanimously today by the Fulton County Grand Jury.

An application for charter for the "Blackshirts" has been pending for several days in Fulton Superior Court.

In the petition for charter, the order claims it is for white supremacy and sets forth as one of its major objectives the securing of employment for members. The principal office is to be in Atlanta and authority has been requested for the establishment of branches, or lodges in other cities.

The resolution says: "Resolved, that a condition in the opinion of the Grand Jury confronts us in which all good citizens are vitally interested. We refer to the activities of the American Facisti or Blackshirts."

"The housewives of Atlanta are very much alarmed at the methods being used by members of this organization to intimidate their domestic servants."

Thursday, September 11, 1930

When an organization in Atlanta calling itself Black Shirts ordered Atlanta employes of negroes to discharge them and hire jobless Black Shirts in violation of a Federal Statute providing ten years imprisonment for persons who conspire to injure or threaten any citizen in the employment of the right or privilege secured to him by the constitution, Editor W. T. Anderson, of the Macon Telegraph wrote an editorial that blasted the efforts of the Black Shirts. Mr. Anderson is a rook-ribbed untterrified Democrat from way ack but he doesn't stand for any political or any other kind of nonsense.

Atlanta, Ga., Journal  
Sunday, September 14, 1930  
**Black Shirts Hit  
In Gwinnett County  
Jury Presentments**  
LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga., Sept. 13.—  
The September term of Gwinnett Su-

perior Court adjourned Friday afternoon the grand jury submitting their presentments at that time. M. L. Hornbuckle was foreman and William M. Shelly, clerk. The grand jury called the court's attention to the Black Shirts organization and referred to a recent meeting that was held near Lawrenceville for the purpose of obtaining members.

The presentments stated that "it is not within our province to question the sincerity of the organization of the so-called Black Shirts, but we feel an organization of this character is entirely unnecessary, and we have been advised reliably that certain citizens have been approached by members of this organization with views that would stimulate race prejudice; therefore it is the sense of this body that any such organization is unnecessary in that it tends to substitute force or coercion for organized law. Second, it is dangerous because it stimulates race prejudice and becomes an added factor in present problems of business depression and unemployment. We therefore recommend to the honorable judge, the officers of the county and the officers of the cities of Gwinnett County that any future meetings be discouraged."

There was attached a paper entitled the "Black Shirt," carrying the date of August 29. The body returned 115 true bills.



Ku Klux Klan - 1930

Georgia.

Macon, Ga. News  
Friday, September 5, 1930  
The Waycross Journal Herald comments on the Blackshirts

## Give the Black Shirts Rope, and Like Hamon, They Will Hang Themselves

Last week, the Independent advised the good people of Atlanta and the state, to "sit steady in the boat" as patriots and loyal Georgians. keep cool, work hard, and trust God, and the storm of Fascism and Communism would soon die of its own innate wickedness, and pass away.

Give the Black Shirts rope, plenty of rope, and they will hang themselves on the gallows of starvation they built to crucify the Negroes on, like Hamon hanged himself on the scavold he erected to hang Mor-decai upon.

"God moves in mysterious ways,  
His wonders to perform.  
He plants His footsteps on the seas,  
He rides upon the storm."

Let the Fascisti have their way; don't obscure or hide them in a dark corner from public gaze; give them publicity, plenty publicity, relentless publicity, and they will do the rest. Expose them; help them to get their insidious propaganda over to the public; help them to tell the world that their chief object is to put every Negro in America out of a job; to murder every Negro on a cross of starvation. Give them rope, long rope, magnify their deeds with publicity—incessantly.

Don't take disorganization for reorganization, or economic chaos for economic relief. We are not a gang of vandals who eat one another to keep from starving. We cannot get away from the proposition, that a cause founded on injustice to a part of the people in a republic, in the last analysis, fails of its ultimate purposes.

"Truth crushed to earth will rise again,  
The eternal years of God's are her's;  
But Error wounded writhes in pain,  
And dies amidst its worshippers."

Let the demagogues have their day; let sin and error reign. Truth will have a day in court and settle all things right. Don't get excited; keep cool, and Italian and Russian fascism and bolshevism will die of its own poison. Communism cannot live in Georgia—too many good people here. White supremacy no longer conjures in Georgia. The principle is neither in peril nor threatened with defeat. It is only the hobby of the demagogue and peanct politician who lives in the dead past who hopes to ride into office on the Negro's back.

The Atlanta Constitution sized up the situation last Sunday when it said:

"White supremacy means the legitimate rule by lawful methods of the greatly major race, using its intelligence, wisdom and experience to establish justice under the constitution and laws for all the people of whatever breed, race, or creed.

"Any less agenda in the name of 'white supremacy' is a fraudulent pretense, a shield for sinister and dangerous propaganda, and too manifestly a scheme to make personal profits for its chief promoters.

"Many good and honest citizens are deceived by the crafty use of the slogan 'white supremacy' and so lend their names and support to a movement quite certain in its operations to react upon their own rights and liberties."

White supremacy is not challenged or threatened in the South, and

needs no bolsheviks, communists, black shirts, ku klux klan, or other secret conspiracy to maintain its militancy. The Negro minority race is not prepared to take over the government from the white majority race, if it were possible, and has neither the desire nor inclination to dominate. The slogan of white supremacy is generally raised by that class of white men who want to fleece the ignorant and unsuspecting white man, or do some other devilment he could not get away with if the populace were permitted to think for themselves. The question of the white man's rule is only raised when he raises it himself.

All the Negro wants is equal economic and political rights along with other citizens. This is his of right and for which he will contend in spite of all the fascisms, Slatons and Harrisers to the contrary notwithstanding.

Whether white or black men control the government, we want and must have a voice in making the laws we must live under, and a hand in the selection of the men who are to enforce and execute these laws.

Don't you believe that the Black Shirts have 27,000 members—that's all propaganda floated to dupe the unsuspecting white man who is out of a job. Let the group publish the list of 27,000 to inspire confidence in their vaunted claims. Stand on the corner of North Forsyth and Poplar streets and view the entrance to their headquarters, and it looks more like a funeral march than a beehive. The whole outfit reminds you of Captain Jackson McHenry's story of three frogs in a pond making as much noise as a thousand frogs. As soon as the leadership gets the "bucks" their hearts are set upon, the movement will pass like Col. Simmons' white band, into innoxious solitude. A few thousands will prove a lucky pickup for the gang, and their 27,000 will still be jobless, and honest colored workers will be satisfactorily serving their employers. It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. Blessings often come to the good by the way of the devil, and let us possess ourselves with patience until a change comes.

Righteous indignation has often suppressed wrong-doing, and the God of the Just still lives and directs the destinies of men. So mote it be!

### END OF THE BLACK SHIRTS.

The fact seems to be that the "Black Shirts," who recently threatened to fascisticize the city and state have petered out. The founders have foundered upon the impregnable rocks of law and public opinion. The membership is largely claiming alibis. The threats made to employers of certain classes of labor have died in the air. All of which obtains the general verdict, "It is well."

The short-lived history of the "Black Shirts" is only one more proof that the American spirit is unhealthy and fatal to organizations, promoted by fanatics or shrewd grafters, whose purpose is to inflame and vitiate tolerance applied against race, creed or class.

The genius of this people is that of freedom—freedom of opinion, freedom of speech, freedom of press, and of political, industrial and social action—all under the protection and protections of sovereign laws.

Misguided men who endeavor to organize prejudice, hatred and intimidation for any purpose, whether of mass terrorism or private profit, must be met by the stern opposition of every citizen who is loyal to the fundamental principles of freedom, humanity and justice.

The passing out of the "Black Shirts" relieves Atlanta from the stigma of being its birthplace, removes a menace to the public order, and should be a warning to other misguided persons not to start here

again any such unholy and intolerable movement.

Much interest has been stirred up in Georgia by the report that the purpose of the organization known as "Blackshirts" is to take away jobs from Negroes and give these jobs to white men.

Today it is accepted by all as economically unwise that the South be a South without any Negroes.

Neither the South nor the Negro is prepared for a total separation.

It is agreed that the Negro is better off in the South than elsewhere and it is likewise agreed that the South has profited economically by the presence of the Negro.

The Negro has performed work in the South that meant a profit to the section and is doing so today.

It is fundamentally true that a Negro with a job and a Negro steadily and daily at work on that job is a greater asset to the South than a Negro without a job.

An idle, loafing Negro is a potential danger.

Therefore, such an organization as the Blackshirts will receive scant welcome in Waycross. Few if any Waycross citizens would care to join such an order.

The purpose of the Blackshirts, as reported, is a purpose with which Waycross emphatically disagrees.

Waycross prefers to see each and every one of its Negroes at work daily, and at work on that which is beneficial to the community.

Waycross has often been referred to as the city that has the highest class of Negro citizenship in Georgia, this reference being made because in Waycross many of the Negroes own their own homes, are consistent supporters of churches and schools, own and operate businesses, maintain business and civic clubs and do all of this peaceably.

The trouble with the Blackshirt strategy is that it wasn't secret. A black shirt is a conspicuous thing and the wearing of one brands its wearer as a simpleton and a sucker. Not even a Fascist can stand being laughed at. The order is dying in infancy.

The Tifton Gazette is not downhearted. The Gazette says:



Constitution  
September 7, 1930

# GEWINNER UPHOLDS 'BLACK SHIRT' TENETS

**American Fascisti Leader Denies Accusation of Race Prejudice.**

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Holt J. Gewinner, signing himself adjutant general of the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, last night issued a statement reiterating the patriotic principles of the order and denying charges that the Black Shirts have ever demanded the discharge of negro employees.

Gewinner's statement follows a resolution passed Friday by the Fulton grand jury condemning the Black Shirts and appealing to judges in the county to deny a charter to the organization. The resolution, among other things, said that housewives of Atlanta had been alarmed over efforts of the Black Shirts to intimidate negro servants, and that manufacturers had also been approached regarding their negro workers.

Gewinner's statement said the Black Shirts "never have made a demand on a single merchant or manufacturer in the city of Atlanta or any place else that they discharge negro employees."

"We have asked and are asking now that our good citizens, whenever they have a job open that a white man can hold, give the job to the white man, thereby assisting our movement in driving the bolsheviks from our country."

"We have affidavits filed with the solicitor's office in this county where forgers have been caught forging the writer's name to various letters and passing them out to manufacturers."

"We are the best friends the negro has ever had, and all we ask is that he stay in his place. The reason for this request is due to the literature that is being circulated among our good negroes telling them to fight for their rights, politically and socially. These documents we have in our possession."

"We fight communism, radicals and insane factions. One other thing we stand for: We do not practice and preach prejudice religiously or otherwise."

"We are giving this statement in view of the danger we see ahead emanating from the red, or communist party, who are sending white men out among the negroes attempting to stir up racial trouble."

It has been previously reported at the Federal building that the United States grand jury, which convenes Monday, will investigate the Black Shirts. The county grand jury, in its

resolution of Friday, ordered that copy be sent to United States District Attorney Clint W. Hager.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution  
Wednesday, September 17, 1930

# PLAINTIFF DISMISSES 'BLACK SHIRT' ACTION

**Lawyers Told by Lee To Drop Suit Against Issuance of Charter.**

An injunction suit protesting against issuance of a charter to the "American Fascisti" order of Black Shirts, was dismissed Tuesday in Fulton superior court by J. T. Lee, the plaintiff.

Hearing of the application of the organization for a charter has not been set, but probably will be fixed in the near future, it was said at the office of the clerk of court.

The injunction petition was called up for hearing Tuesday morning by Judge G. H. Howard, and was dismissed on motion by Murrell & Murrell, counsel for the plaintiff. The attorneys said that they had received instructions from Lee to drop the action. Lee had claimed that powers of the organization had been usurped and that its principles had been changed.

The suit had been directed against R. A. Gordon, R. S. Gulledege, H. J. Gewinner and Walter A. Sims.

**Gewinner Promises to Pay.**

Gewinner Tuesday informed City Attorney James L. Mayson that he will pay the \$40 check he gave R. H. McMurray, tax receiver, for use of the city auditorium one night last week, and which has been returned by the Citizens & Southern bank marked "no commercial account."

Members of the auditorium committee of council Monday instructed Mr. Mayson to proceed with collection.

"Mr. Gewinner promised today that he will pay the check within the next two or three days," Mr. Mayson said Tuesday.

The check was proffered and accepted in payment for use of the auditorium by the Black Shirts.

Rumors that the Black Shirts would not press their application for a charter when the hearing comes up could not be confirmed by Sims, who filed the application. "I was instructed to file the application and now am waiting for the court hearing," he said. "I have not heard that the application will not be pressed."

**Boykin Prepares Brief.**

Solicitor-General John A. Boykin Tuesday night said that he has prepared a brief on the Black Shirt matter for submission. The brief was prepared in connection with the grand jury resolutions protesting the charter.

The Fulton county grand jury recently adopted resolutions protesting against issuance of a charter to the Black Shirts, and requesting the court to deny the application.

The resolutions charged that "employers of negro labor have been ap-

proached with demands that they discharge their negro help." The grand jury said that it is contrary to public policy to issue a charter to "such an organization."

The resolutions declared that "such methods as are employed by this organization are inimical to the best interests of both the white and colored races," and that "the housewives of Atlanta are very much alarmed at the methods being used by members of this organization to intimidate domestic help."

Birmingham, Ala., Age Herald

Wednesday, September 18, 1930

**Georgia Fascists**

The Fascist movement in Georgia seems to be having its troubles. Threats of a Federal Grand Jury investigation have been in the air for some days.

Denunciations have come from other quarters. Now we read that one of the choice and master spirits of the enterprise has obtained a temporary injunction looking to a halt in the process of incorporation. And one of the grounds of the injunction is that the petition for a charter spells Fascist "Facist," and that the petitioners do not even know how to pronounce the word.

That reduces the matter to the nadir of ridiculousness. But it is not a bit funnier than the idea of an offshoot of the K. K. K. borrowing the title and terminology of "furriners" like the Italians. These are tough days economically, as every one knows. But they must be particularly tough if they can drive professional 100 per centers into aping a "degraded" European organization.

Yet it is not hard to understand the psychology of these proud Anglo-Saxons who have been willing to borrow from the "wops." It is the notion of black shirts which must have been alluring. Nightshirts, such as those worn in the pristine days of the klan, are no longer fashionable. Therefore, the thought of black shirts must have come as an inspiration. Some article of apparel is apparently inextricably interwoven with these societies to save our white civilization and to provide easy money for the organizers.

To preserve white supremacy, the Order of Black Shirts has been interested in heckling employers to get rid of negro workers. Also it has been interested in fighting Communism. There is no risk in assuming that the Black Shirts know no more about Communism than they do about Fascism. But since it is their desire to capitalize ignorance, there can be no valid objection to their being ignorant themselves. It is enough that they are prepared to fight for their principles, even though they don't know what their principles are.

# Blackshirts Fight To Obtain Charter

ATLANTA, GA., Oct. 13.—(P)—Beset by opponents from two sides, the Georgia branch of "The American Fascisti" or order of "Black Shirts," appealed today to the Fulton County Superior Court for a charter. 10-14-30

The Court has before it the application of the Florida branch of "The American Fascisti" or order of "Black Shirts" for an injunction restraining the Georgia brethren-in-name from organizing as "Black Shirts." The court also had before it a protest of the Fulton County Grand Jury, which recommended that a charter be denied the 'Black Shirts,' because there is no place for such an organization in our city."

Judge G. H. Howard heard testimony for and against the granting of a charter until 2 p.m. Then he recessed court until tomorrow. Holt J. Gewinner, who described himself as adjutant of the "Georgia Black Shirts" is seeking the charter for his group. His counsel suggested the court had no right to impute unlawful and improper motives to the applicants.

John A. Boykin, Fulton County solicitor general characterized the order "as a money grabbing organization for private gain by arousing racial prejudices."

Counsel for the "Florida Black Shirts" argued that the Georgia men should not be allowed to become incorporated because "their order is a colorful imitation" of the Florida organization.

Black Shirts in Florida organized under a charter granted in Orange County in that State.

The Georgia organization's petition for a charter describes the order as the "American Fascisti" which is not the customary way of spelling the latter word.

The Florida organization is incorporated as "The American Fascisti" which is the accepted spelling of the name.

Macon, Ga., News

Saturday, October 18, 1930

# GEWINNER HAS SECOND ORDER

**Order of Patriots Formed as Black Shirts Are Denied Georgia Charter**

ATLANTA, Ga., Oct. 18. (P)—Holt J. Gewinner announced Friday night that members of his group had formed a new organization to be known as the "Order of Patriots," with himself as president.

He said the "Black Shirts" plan to carry their fight for a charter to the

supreme court, and that organization of the New body will not affect the name of the "American Fascisti" groups outside this state.

The American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, which asked a charter and listed among its purposes the promotion of "white supremacy," was denied the charter in Fulton superior court Friday.

Judge G. H. Howard, in denying the charter, said that some acting members of the petitioning order apparently misconstrued the term "white supremacy" and so construed the purposes stated in the petition and the powers sought as authorizing both legal and illegal acts.

The American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, which was chartered at Orlando, Fla., and which intervened in the Fulton county charter petition here, to oppose the charter, was enjoined from operating in Fulton county.

Judge Howard said it was not necessary at this time to pass upon the intervention, but that until a final order of the court the intervenors "are enjoined from operating under the name of the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, as prayed in an amendment and cross action filed by the petitioners for charter in this case."

"Nothing in this order," the judge said, "is to be construed as granting to said intervenors or any persons associated with the intervenors to the Florida corporation, American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, the right to operate or use such name in this state as such corporation."



## Klu Klux Klan - 1930

### ATLANTA TURNS TO FASCISM.

News came from Atlanta last week that a group of Black Shirts has been formed in that city, modeled upon the fascist organization which has taken hold of Italy under Benito Mussolini. This new organization, which seeks to take the place formerly held by the Ku Klux Klan, is styled the American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts. In its application for a charter the incorporators are shown as R. A. Gordon, a former candidate for mayor; R. S. Gullledge and Holt J. Gwiner, formerly of Macon; Walter A. Sims, a former mayor of Atlanta, is the attorney for the incorporators. The names of Edward Y. Clarke and William J. Simmons seem to be missing from this group.

The definite objects of these Black Shirts are stated as follows: To drive the Negro out of work to make room for the unemployed whites and to rid the country of communists. With headquarters at Atlanta, it is proposed to establish branches in every important city of the South and then spread to other sections of the country. R. A. Gordon, a former councilman of Atlanta and a charter member of the organization, explained its purposes further:

"The American fascisti hope to drive the reds and communists out of our country. They are desecrating our flag, lowering the standards of the white race, instilling insurrection and treason in our good Negroes. They are preaching the gospel of Red Russia to the ignorant whites and stirring up dissension among the textile workers and other laborers in the South.

"We do not favor mob rule. We are sworn to uphold the laws of our state and country. We do favor, however, sensible legislation and honest government—by white people. We are organized for the purpose of supporting our government, our constitution and the laws of the land.

"We believe in white supremacy and the employment of white men in preference to the Negro. One of our aims is to place every deserving white man on a job."

Some time ago a writer on the New South referred to Atlanta as "the Capital of Moronia," and said it was to blame for much of the lawlessness now sweeping

many parts of the United States. To support this assertion he cited the Ku Klux Klan revived by Simmons and Clarke at Atlanta; Coca Cola, Hon. William D. Upshaw, the Supreme Kingdom, Incorporated, the White Band, Incorporated, and a complacent press that encourages such enterprises as incite to prejudices of race, class and religion. The support that such movements receive is attributed to an overwhelming number of morons in the community. This makes it a rich field for the gleaning of membership fees to all these associations devoted to the exaltation of the white race. The latest of these charges only a fee of one dollar, which entitles the member to be listed with the Fascist Employment Bureau.

With the fata facility shown by Atlantans in boosting organizations advocating white supremacy, this so-called Fascist group is capable of doing much mischief.

### The New Menace

It would be folly to view with indifference the announced aims of the "American Fascist Association and Order of Blackshirts," recently formed in Atlanta. Neither should it be viewed with undue alarm, for although it is undoubtedly a new and terrible menace, a majority of the American people have a sense of decency and of justice that will not permit of the merciless persecution of a minority group indefinitely, even if that group happens to be Americans of African blood. The Ku Klux Klan spent its fury without destroying the Jews, the Catholics or the Negroes, the major objects of its attack. Another Anglo-Saxon crusade born upon the ruins of the Klan shot its bolt without turning the country upside down, and the Blackshirts will not turn the black people out to starve. Thanks to the courage and fairness of such able southern editors as W. T. Anderson of the *Macon (Ga.) Telegraph* and Grover C. Hall of the *Montgomery Advertiser*, light is already being turned on the "American Fascist Association and Order of Blackshirts."

The announced purpose of the new order is to take every job of every kind away from Negroes now employed in the cities and force them "to go to the country to live." A sort of back-to-the-farm movement inaugurated and enforced by a crack-brained group of prejudice-ridden fanatics who, if their plan could be carried out, would turn loose upon the country a great horde of people utterly unprepared to make their living on farms, who would become charges upon the public, spreaders of disease and compelled to re-

## Georgia

sort to crime for a livelihood.

This new effort to throttle the Negro is vitalized by a familiar war cry: "This is a white man's country!" That is why the Georgia Fascists feel called upon to separate all Negroes in cities from their jobs. They are mimicing an earlier movement which separated the Negro from the right of suffrage. Now these new patriots employ the idea to stop the Negro from earning a living by working with his hands. Deprived of the ballot or of political influence an American may be deprived of his job, or of his property or any constitutional guarantee which he may have to pursue life, liberty and happiness.

If an organized group, whose announced purpose is to prevent Negroes from working at any kind of a job can obtain a charter to do business from a court of law in a sovereign state, we may reasonably expect to see legalized in due time a movement whose announced intention is to seize any property which a Negro may hold by right of purchase.

There are certain factors which contribute to the growth and health of such movements as this latest device for disrupting the harmony and peace of the country. The cowardly surrender of the Hoover administration to the spirit of jim crowism; his utter disregard of the elemental decencies due a large section of the population by the President of the Nation in his failure to give any recognition to Negroes; the timidity of law enforcement authorities and their coddling of the Klan and its offsprings for political expediency; and the crass weakness and cowardice of the Church in its attitude toward repression and economic subjection of minority groups.

Against these things the Negro must organize for defense, which must necessarily be political and economic. In certain sections of the country Negroes enjoy the unrestricted privilege of the ballot, and should use it with wisdom and discretion. Even in their low economic state, if all the Negro money in Atlanta banks should be withdrawn, Atlanta would take notice, and act immediately to curb the activities of the "American Fascist Association and Order of Blackshirts."

### No Need for American Fascisti.

Now that the millions in profits from memberships and the sale of sheets in the Ku Klux Klan have diminished to almost nothingness, some ambitious promoters seem anxious to further capitalize the American habit of joining secret organizations and boasting the magic of passwords. Efforts are afoot to establish an order of "black shirts" or "American Fascisti" in this country. The success of Mussolini's organization undoubtedly furnishes the encouragement the promoters want.

By some it is said that the

of the proposed new secret body is to assist in law enforcement while by others it is claimed that the "black shirts" would be employed to drive negroes out of employment that could then be given to unemployed whites. No matter which of these be the objective of the new secret order it has no place in this country. Law enforcement must be done openly. If the law enforcers fail, others should be gotten in their place. But regardless of success or failure, the menace contained in secret and extra legal law enforcement is more grave than the danger of lawlessness.

And negro employment is an economic matter that must be handled openly, honestly and fairly. No race can be denied the right to earn a livelihood and if there be any necessary adjustments in employment they should be made openly by those handling the problem rather than secretly by those whose only knowledge of the matter is derived from prejudice.

The establishment of a secret government within the lawful government set up by the voters for no higher purpose than financial profit to the promoters through the capitalization of prejudices is the most dangerous movement that could appear in any country. The promoters of this new scheme should go back to work at something that offers the hope of benefit to the whole country and not merely to themselves.

### Macon Mayor Bans Black Shirt Meeting

MACON, Ga., Sept. 4.—(AP)—Mayor C. Glen Toole informed representatives of the Black Shirts here today that they would not be permitted to have a public meeting, nor to use a public hall in this city for a meeting. They had tried to arrange for a meeting.

The mayor also warned them that they must not distribute any printed matter.

The chief of police received instructions a minute later to carry out the mayor's edict.

Later tonight a group of Black Shirts assembled in the open air, about four miles from the city, and held a meeting. County officers who were watching the meeting said there were about 100 persons in attendance, many of them boys.



# MACON MINISTERS FLAY BLACK SHIRTS

MACON, Ga., Aug. 31.—(P)—Two Macon pastors, the Rev. C. R. Jenkins, pastor of the Mulberry Street Methodist church, and the Rev. Ed F. Cook, pastor of Vineville Methodist church, flayed the order of "Black Shirts" in their sermons tonight. Both pastors are leaders in the South Georgia conference.

"If the 'Black Shirts' are not after the money they are very stupid to organize at all," said Dr. Jenkins. "They can do no good. If they break the Golden Rule they will do harm."

The Rev. Dr. Cook's reference to "Black Shirts" included: "The trouble with all such movements to 'redeem the nation' is that they are essentially selfish and violate in letter and spirit the 'law of love.'"

**'BLACK SHIRT' ORDER  
MODIFIED BY THOMAS  
Organization Allowed To  
Carry on Usual Business  
Under New Action.**

4-3-30

An order modifying his previous order in the suit instituted by J. T. Lee against R. A. Gordon, H. J. Gewin, R. S. Gullledge and Walter A. Sims was signed Tuesday by Judge E. D. Thomas, of Fulton superior court, in order to permit the defendants to operate the American Fascisti, Order of Black Shirts, pending trial of the injunction suit.

In his order, Judge Thomas said that the only thing the court intended enjoining in the original order, signed Monday, was the granting of a charter to the organization. The defendants are not enjoined from holding meetings, having their newspaper issued, and issuing membership cards so long as a strict accounting is kept of moneys received and paid out, Judge Thomas said in the order.

Lee instituted suit for an injunction to prevent the defendants from incorporating the organization, charging that they are attempting to commercialize it for their monetary advantage. The temporary restraining order is returnable September 12.

Other developments in the affairs of the Black Shirts Tuesday included the revelation that a prominent Atlantian has received numerous "death threats" because of his opposition to this newly formed order.

In view of the expectation that a federal grand jury, which will be convened here next Monday, will probe the activity of the Black Shirts, it was said at the Federal building Tuesday that officials are considering recalling agents of the department of justice to make an investigation of the "death threat" letters.

## NO PLACE FOR BLACK SHIRTS

Editorial, The Chattanooga News, Saturday, Aug. 23, 1930.)

A new organization is being formed in the South, the purpose of which is to oust Negroes from employment, and to put whites in their places. The title of this pernicious enterprise is the "American Fascisti Association and Order of Black Shirts." It has already begun operations in Atlanta, Macon, Savannah and Columbus. Attempts are soon to be made to open units in Knoxville and in Chattanooga. Such is the news contained in a special dispatch from our Atlanta correspondent Thursday.

There is no place in Chattanooga for an organization of this type. We hope and believe that the people of this community will turn a cold shoulder to the organizers—these words: "Let us give the Negro his utmost rights, and measure out justice to him in that fullness the blacks. In troubled times, demagogues and agitators all too often weak. Let us educate him that find a fertile field. It is up to the people as people as a whole to remember that such hate-engendered schemes as this afford no solution of the crisis through which not only the South, but also the nation and the world, are now passing.

According to our correspondent's dispatch, the Order of Black Shirts has been enrolling its members at a fee of a dollar apiece. Veiled promises are made that white men who pay their dollar and become members can oust Negroes from employment and take over the Negroes' jobs. Certain large firms in Atlanta, it is reported, have been "served with notice" to discharge their colored help. Such an organization is a menace to the peace and the justice of the South.

The principal body of Negroes in the United States is to be found in the South. There is no profit in inquiring as to the right and the wrong of the armed combat of two-thirds of a century ago over the slavery issue. The fact remains that the ancestors of our present Negro population came here unwillingly and under duress. They

now constitute the largest body of common labor in the South. They are human beings, with rights and hopes, with frailties and mistakes. Southerners must treat them with intelligence—not with prejudice and hate.

The Negro is the South's problem. If we treat him unjustly, not only do we injure him, but also we deal a wound to the South. The Negro is entitled to sympathy for his struggle upward, and to justice in his relations with his fellow men, white and black.

This mis-begotten and ill-shapen Black Shirt Order had its origin in Atlanta. It was in the same city many years ago, that a great Southerner promulgated a doctrine that the South should heed.

THE WORDS OF HENRY GRADY

It was Henry Grady who used these words:

"Let us give the Negro his utmost rights, and measure out justice to him in that fullness the strong should always give to the he may be a better, a broader and more enlightened man . . . And let us remember this—that whatever wrong we put on him shall return to punish us."

## BLACK SHIRTS MAKE ABORTIVE EFFORT TO GROW

Journal and Guide  
Police Officers Watch  
Meeting In Griffin,  
Georgia

## LEADER SPEAKS Crowds Show Greater Curiosity Than Real Interest

Special to Journal and Guide  
GRIFFIN, Ga.—Curiosity to

know "what it was all about" rather than real interest in the movement was the chief reaction of residents here to the efforts to establish a branch of the Black Shirts organization, latest anti-Negro movement launched in the South. R. S. Gullledge, an "adjutant general" of the newest wrinkle in prejudice paradeing under the banner of "patriotism," accompanied by 100 wearers of the costumes of the order from Atlanta, addressed an open-air meeting at the rear of the school building here last Thursday.

About 600 persons were in attendance, among them about 100 youngsters under 21 years of age, and several policemen, and a large number of curiosity seekers. They heard the leader of the visiting delegation expound the alleged purposes of the Black Shirts, but they had been forewarned that its real purpose was to supplant Negro labor with white labor. According to Mr. Gullledge, the principles of the order are: law and order, white supremacy, down with communism, maintaining the sanctity of the home, making it possible for every white man to have a job.

For the first period of his address he sought to sell himself and then delved into history, referring to the assassination of Presidents Garfield, Lincoln and McKinley.

He blamed Emma Goldman for starting the spread of "Red" propaganda in this country, and declared that the fighting of Communism was the principal task before the order.

Following Mussolini  
The speaker declared that the organization was trying to follow the Fascista of Italy, which is under the leadership of Mussolini.

Some time ago, he said, in showing that Communism has a foothold in the south, the "Red" headquarters in Atlanta were raided and propaganda was seized, which he said, "showed that Communists were preaching insurrection to the Negroes."

He said that in this propaganda was: "If you can't get social equality, or the right of the ballot, fight for it."

At the conclusion of the address membership blanks were handed out to those in attendance.

Griffin people did not appear much interested in the meeting, but were curious to learn something of the Black Shirts.

Coming To Macon

Before the meeting Mr. Gullledge informed a reporter that he was coming to Macon on Saturday night and is arranging for a meeting in that city at that time. He stated that copies of the official organ of the Black Shirt would be sold on the streets of Macon Saturday night by Atlanta news boys. "We'll give the papers away if necessary and will flood Macon with them," he said.

Mr. Gullledge exhibited a letter from Macon stating, "I'm sending \$10 to help the cause along. There are many

here who will gladly join your organization.

He stated that W. T. Anderson, of The Telegraph, in his front page editorial recently started a fight on the Black Shirts without knowing anything about the organization.

Cites Alleged Growth

He stated that his organization was growing by "leaps and bounds" and that its only handicap was money to carry on expansion work. He said that inquiries from northern states had been received and extension would probably be carried to the north and west as quickly as possible.

The aims of the organization, he said, are "to combat communists." The Negro angle is a side issue but as Negroes are the prey of communists it is necessary to consider that angle, he added, and told of a meeting recently in Atlanta where a woman communistic spy attended, dressed as a man. "We were tipped off to this," he said, "and one of our men tore the shirt from the woman and revealed her sex and then it became apparent that she was a noted Red of Atlanta."

## Black Shirt Organ Sales Prohibited By Athens Mayor

Athens, Ga., Sept. 1.—Mayor A. G. Dudley, of Athens, Monday issued an order prohibiting the sale on the streets of Athens of "Black Shirt" publications. 9-4-30

In a statement accompanying his order Mayor Dudley said the order "has no right to dictate to employers of labor." He said further that "such an anti-social, anti-racial organization, apparently set up for the personal profit of its organizers, will not be tolerated in the community."

In addition to his official capacity as mayor, Mr. Dudley spoke from the standpoint of a large employer of labor. He is the head of two large mills in Athens, and has other interests.—Atlanta Constitution.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

# Alleged Signers Refute 'Constitution Caucasian Crusade' Letter

## Four Atlantans Disavow Signing Letter Seeking Members for Order

Charging that the use of his name in circulars as one of the sponsors of the Caucasian Crusaders, as recently published in New York newspapers, was presumptuous, Congressman Robert Ramspeck Thursday declared that he had never heard of the organization and had given no authorization for the use of his name.

The Decatur congressman joined with three other prominent Atlantans in disclaiming any knowledge of the "Crusaders." Sheriff James I. Lowry, of Fulton county; Dr. Sam W. Small, of The Constitution, and William Schley Howard previously entered their protests at the unwarranted liberty taken by those who circulated the names.

In all seven Atlantans were named, the four who denied knowledge of the so-called organization and Ed F. Bond, who stated that so far as he could remember he had never given such authorization, Dr. Frank Eskridge and William J. Simmons, whose statement appears below.

Dr. Small in a letter written Thursday in reply to one received from Colonel Simmons repeated that he "did not sign the letter of solicitation that is now in circulation." Dr. Small called attention to the others whose names were used and who likewise have denied authorizing such usage.

### Signed Paper.

Dr. Eskridge Thursday stated that several months ago he signed a paper brought to him with a request that he aid a movement toward white supremacy. On that paper were signatures purported to be those of William Schley Howard and Dr. Sam W. Small. He also believes Congressman Robert Ramspeck's name was on the paper.

"I glanced over the paper and seeing the names of my friends there, signed the paper," Dr. Eskridge said. "I favored the purpose I was told the paper was to be used for, the gathering of statistics and data as I remember it."

"I did not and do not know about an organization known as the Caucasian Crusaders and did not know that my name was to be used, if it has been, for the purpose of sponsoring a new organization."

Dr. Eskridge stated that he had seen a copy of the circular letter, and that it was not exactly the paper he signed. "I have just seen the letter

published," Dr. Eskridge said, "and it is slightly different from the one I signed, which did not contain a solicitation for membership. The letter published in New York did make a bid for membership."

Colonel Simmons in his letter, which included a reply to Dr. Small's letter printed Wednesday morning, did not mention the Caucasian Crusaders but sought to uphold the organization known as The White Band.

Dr. Small's letter follows:

### Dr. Small's Letter.

"Editor Constitution: With reference to the statement by Colonel William Joseph Simmons I have to say that I was not 'one of the prime movers of the White Band.' I knew nothing of it until solicited by him and other valued friends to join it. Whatever I did or said in that association was in promotion of a sentiment then held and yet held."

"But the fact is that I did not sign the letter of solicitation that is now in circulation and a corroboration of that is found in the fact that William Schley Howard, Congressman Robert Ramspeck, Sheriff James I. Lowry, Ed Bond and perhaps others whose names are attached, have repudiated it."

"I shall enter into no debate in print with Colonel Simmons over this matter. I simply decline to be part of a movement to capitalize a sacred sentiment and exploit it on commercial lines."

### "SAM W. SMALL."

Colonel Simmons' letter was as follows:

### Colonel Simmons' Letter.

"Editor Constitution: A conspicuously boxed statement of Sam W. Small on the editorial page of your July 23rd issue has come to my notice and same merits an immediate reply. Since he uses my name along with several other honorable gentlemen and also that of The White Band, therefore, in keeping with due justice and fair play to the public and to several thousand good citizens who are directly concerned, I respectfully request and shall of right expect the publication of this communication."

My dear Doctor Small: Your statement in July 23 issue of The Constitution came as a distinct surprise to me and many others. It is certainly far fetched, and it coming from you makes it most astounding."

You were one of the prime movers of the White Band, and have been one of our most beloved supreme officers from the beginning and have personally participated in the activities of our supreme council. You were present and appreciatively active at the constitutional session of our supreme council at and in which the constitution and laws were framed and adopted, and the character, purposes, objects, programs and policies of the order were fixed. You said nothing regarding "capitalizing white supremacy" at that time. If you have forgotten this session, doctor, there are 13 other reputable men who have not. And you know that our supreme council is composed of 13 of the best men in all of Georgia, including yourself; all of whom I am honored to be associated with."

The insinuation that The White Band is a movement "capitalizing on white supremacy," is unfair, unjust, untrue and without the semblance of foundation in fact, and you know it! Does the fact that it has an initiation fee, like other fraternal orders, in order to finance its existence and progress, constitute it a "capitalizing" organization? If so, then, on what are the Masons, K. of P., Odd Fellows, Elks and all other orders capitalizing on? All our churches require assessments or otherwise acquire cash with which to meet their expenses, are they all "capitalizers" of Christianity? If so, then The White Band is in the midst of a goodly company of mighty fine folks."

As to that letter you refer to in your statement, I will say: That surely you are under a spell of lapse of memory. I went to see you in your office last March, consulted you about it, you read a memorandum draft of it and heartily approved it. I informed you as to how it would be used, and you did consent to it and did sign it, just as other gentlemen did. I am certainly not so stupid or fool enough to use any person's name to a letter without such person's knowledge and consent, and you know full well that I would not do such a thing. The copy you read and signed was sent to one of the parties, then out of the city, for his signature and he signed it. I am afraid that your memory is playing you some pranks, doctor."

You know all too well that there is no one connected with The White Band who is inclined to resort to "shyster" methods in its behalf. Such an insinuation is a blow away below the belt, and is repugnant to the public's appreciative sense of fair play. If you wish to renounce your allegiance, solemnly sworn to, and resign your membership, that is a matter of your own election; all may regret it but none will interfere. If you wish to retract the splendid utterances you have made on several occasions, especially in a truly great speech you made to the White Band some months since, that is your personal prerogative and unimpeachable privilege; but, for you, of all men, to sling a slur at a great and honorable (and only) movement forming to safeguard the interest of the white man, his heritage, home and child in an honorable, fraternal way from alien, colored and communist encroachment and mongrelizing machinations of many sincere but misguided white people; a movement whose heart and soul you yourself know to be clean and honorable as the noble men who fashioned it, such a slur is not in good keeping with the professions and practices of such a highly respected citizen as you, nor does your slur square with your positive utterance in our council sessions. Many are now wondering as to why this sudden and unexpected and very radical change of front just at this time and without provocation, rhyme or reason."

It is indeed a strange thing, that organizations for negro interest and unnatural advancement, have and are being readily formed and do command money most liberally and in huge sums, to carry on their programs; but, when a movement to promote the white man's interest, to make secure his priceless heritage and to bless his child's sacred birthright, is inaugurated, and it seeks to acquire necessary finances through membership contributions and then be branded or stigmatized as being virtually a "conspiracy to capitalize" on sacred principles and that too by one who has absolute knowledge to the contrary, appears to any thinking person as being somewhat strange. Evidently "there is a 'jigger' in the wood pile somewhere."

No millionaire foundations nor persons have donated a dime to our cause, but, the White Band is going forward, nurtured by the deep and warm-blooded and true-blooded devotion of America's sovereign white manhood and womanhood, regardless of those who may oppose it and those who may desert its ranks and abandon its peerless purpose. The great white soul of America is awakening and girding itself to preserve its race integrity, its race supremacy and its sacred race heritage. We are sworn to due justice to and due consideration of all peoples concerned. We are justly proud of our heritage and propose to rightly preserve it. Our great movement stands erect in the consciousness of the high quality of its own character, without cringe or compromise and without semblance of apology. In view of existing and fast accumulating

Georgia.

facts, many of which were supplied by you, doctor, if white supremacy is as firmly fixed as the Rock of Gibraltar, as you say, then Stone Mountain is an ice-cream cone and you know this is true."

Doctor, we, your erstwhile comrades, wonder why your change of front, all so sudden like, and why your deserting our ranks is not a sub-rosa as your request was relative to your official connection with our movement. To leave us is your privilege, but leave without a stain or sting."

Faithfully and forever in the white man's cause,

WILLIAM JOSEPH SIMMONS,  
The Generalissimo of the White Band, Inc.  
Atlanta, Ga.,  
July 23, 1930.

## Sale of 'Black Shirt' Prohibited in Athens

ATHENS, Ga., Sept. 1.—(AP)—Mayor A. G. Dudley, of Athens, Monday issued an order prohibiting the sale on the streets of Athens of "Black Shirt" publications. 9-2-30

In a statement accompanying his order Mayor Dudley said the order "has no right to dictate to employers of labor." He said further that "such an anti-social, anti-racial organization, apparently set up for the personal profit of its organizers, will not be tolerated in the community."

In addition to his official capacity as mayor, Mr. Dudley spoke from the standpoint of a large employer of labor. He is the head of two large mills in Athens, and has other interests.

## INJUNCTION HALTS LOCAL ACTIVITIES OF 'BLACK SHIRTS'

Constitution  
9-2-30

J. T. Lee, Member, Charges  
That Organizers Have  
Commercialized Name  
for Own Monetary Gain.

Atlanta, Ga.

An injunction temporarily restraining R. A. Gordon, R. S. Gullidge, H. J. Gewinner and Walter A. Sims from obtaining a charter for the "American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts," and from paying out money or doing anything else under the name of the American Fascisti, was signed Monday night by Judge E. D. Thomas, of Fulton superior court.

Judge Thomas' order was attached to a petition which will be filed this morning in superior court by J. T. Lee, who seeks a receivership for the organization on the ground that Gewinner has usurped powers not

delegated to him, and that the defendants Gewinner and Gullidge have caused condition that are a menace to society, to the safety of the people and to law and good order.

Lee's petition charges that Gewinner and Gullidge have changed the principles of the organization for an unlawful purpose and for principles against public policy and in violation of both federal and state laws. Lee alleges that the use and incorporation of the name of the American Fascisti by the defendants is unlawful and without any authority, and that the defendants are trying to commercialize the name for their own monetary advantage.

### Hearing on September 12.

Judge Thomas ordered the defendants to show cause on September 12 why the prayers of the petitioner should not be granted.

The plaintiff alleges that he and 400 others assembled in the Junior Order United American Mechanics hall on Flat Shoals avenue on June 10 for the purpose of organizing a secret order or organization to combat the communist party and the doctrine of communism and to discourage the teachings of communism and to foster white supremacy.

At this meeting, the petition states Gewinner, Dewey Smith and J. G. Wood were appointed as a committee to perfect plans for a permanent organization, and at the next meeting Wood reported for the committee and said the body had decided not to charge any dues or initiation fees, but would rely on voluntary contributions for necessary operating expenses and funds. This report was adopted, and at a series of meetings an average of \$50 a meeting was collected, the petition alleges.

Wood outlined the purposes of the organization at various meetings, but after the seventh meeting, because of the incendiary remarks of certain speakers, Wood refused to speak further or to have anything further to do with the organization, the plaintiff alleges. "After the seventh meeting not being run as a money-making proposition, but that it is a non-political organization attempting to help people."

"If the organization wanted to make money, it would charge a great deal more than the \$1 for membership. This amount just takes care of the necessary overhead, including office rent, help and printing. The very first plank in its platform is one of strict enforcement of all laws."

### NIPPING IT IN THE BUD

In all probability the "American Fascist Association and Order of Black Shirts," another Georgia-born organization based on prejudice, will not find growth conditions so favorable in its infant period as did its prototype, the now waning Ku Klux Klan.

The Klan made rapid headway in gaining members during the World War when shrewd promoters could make a patriotic appeal go far. In the earlier stages of its existence many joined the Klan without realizing its possibilities for evil. Young men, just out of the army, probably thought they could find therein



an outlet for their passions in peace as well as in war. Many doubtless became initiates thinking it was just another secret order. Politically ambitious persons enrolled in its membership to establish new points of contact. Several years were needed to teach such persons that they had unwittingly become members of an organization that was fraught with evil—an order fostering nocturnal outrages; a clique exerting a malevolent influence on the political life of many communities and States.

The Fascist Association was formed recently in Atlanta with the avowed purpose of ousting Negroes from their situations and replacing them with white men—regardless of the wishes, evidently, of either the employer or the employed.

But there are refreshing evidences of a determination on the part of the public that history shall not repeat itself in the matter of prejudice-nourishing secret orders. The Civitan Club of Macon, Ga., at its Friday meeting adopted a resolution condemning the objectives of the American Fascists. Speeches were made by club members denouncing efforts to drive Negroes from work and stating that Negroes were necessary to the business and industry of the city. The Rev. Ed Cook, a Methodist pastor, said the organization "put fear and unrest in the minds of Negroes who are entitled to all the rights and privileges of American citizenship." "The Black Shirts," he said, "far from remedying our depressed condition, will aggravate the situation and cause unrest."

In Atlanta it is rumored that the activities of the new organization will be a subject of investigation by the Federal grand jury which convenes early in September.

But probably more significant and hopeful than any official action is the stand taken by the business men of Macon. The Civitans' denunciation of the Black Shirts will probably be echoed in other places in the South. The people will hardly stand for being bitten twice by the same dog—or, if you will, by a canine of similar breed.

Athens, Ga. Banner-Herald  
Wednesday, August 27, 1930

## No Effort Made In Athens For "Fascisti" Group

No effort has been made here to obtain members of the American Fascisti, an anti-Negro group organized in Atlanta recently which now has over 21,000 members at "one dollar a head." If

there has been any effort to solicit members here for the organization it has been kept very quiet. The organization has no connection with the Italian Fascisti, it is said.

According to reports coming out of Atlanta the organization is seeking to oust Negroes from any jobs that white men will take and send all the Negroes back to the farm. Membership cost \$1.00. Any white man over 18 years of age is eligible to membership, to the "Black Shirts" provided he is native born. Jews and Catholics are not barred from the "Black Shirts" as they were from the Ku Klux Klan.

The Atlanta correspondent of The Macon Telegraph concludes his story on the "Black Shirts" with the following:

### Hard Winter Looms

"One man, who said he is a member, and who was very much impressed with the purposes of the organization, stated today that 'the Black Shirts are going to make a pretty hard winter for the Negroes in this state.' He said before Christmas there isn't going to be a black bell boy or a black truck driver in a job in Atlanta, and before the middle of next year there won't be one in a job in Gorgia." His explanation was that "this is a white man's country and there are too many Negroes in jobs and too many white men out of jobs."

"An interesting statement by him is that the 'Fascisti' which he explained Mussolini has nothing to do with, is getting up a list of the vacant farms with tenant houses all over Georgia, and they are going to offer the Negroes an opportunity to go out in the country and rent those vacant farms and make a living if they want to."

### Progress Is Reported.

"In fact, he claimed that already the 'Fascisti' has been able to 'get the Negroes out' in at least half a dozen places in Atlanta, and that is is 'plain to see we are going to be able to do the same thing in all the other cities in Georgia.' The 'work of the white man's organization,' he said will not be confined to this state, for already arrangements are being made to carry it over into at least two cities in Tennessee."

"These details are not set out in the application to the courts for a charter, however. That document describes the organization as 'patriotic,' with the right to assist its members in securing employment, to extend to them sick and other benefits, to fix the levy assessments and dues and to foster and inculcate the principle of white supremacy, obedience to the laws of the land, and to support

## "Best Editorial in Five Years," Says Black Shirt Journal; Commend Improvement Editorial

Editor Constitution: An editorial appearing in today's Constitution entitled "Aiding Business Revival" has the wholehearted indorsement of the Black Shirt.

We have been greatly handicapped by the public's lack of knowledge of our principles. The Atlanta Constitution, like hundreds of good Atlanta people, has been misled by false rumors and current untruths which have been spoken and published about us. Unauthorized acts, committed by outsiders, and perhaps by some over-ardent members, have caused us considerable trouble and embarrassment. Forged letters, written by parties unknown to us, threatening employers and demanding removal of negro employees, have placed us in a bad position. Many mysterious telephone calls to employers, by parties unknown to us, threatening them and demanding employment of white men, have placed us in a serious position.

We are mainly interested in fighting communism, and placing white men at work. We are not trying to stir up racial trouble, but to the contrary. The communists are trying to place rebellion in the minds of our good negroes and cause unrest and dissatisfaction among the poor white unemployed or underpaid workers. Through their incentive propaganda they reach the homes of thousands of idle people, already dissatisfied and some of them on the verge of starvation. It is an easy matter for them to take the young from these homes and make of them criminals and socialists. The communists preach social equality to the negro and place the germs of riot in his mind. They spend millions of dollars yearly to further their purposes. Their object is to cause race riots, strikes, dissension and strife among our people. They reap a rich harvest from their members and are continuing to grow at an alarming pace.

It is our desire to place white men at work, not in the place of negroes already employed, but on all jobs in the future where practicable. It is certainly not our intention to try to intimidate or force any individual or group to accede to our wishes. We hope that through the recognition of their own color that many employers will cease to employ negroes on jobs where white men could be used to a better purpose.

The editorial in The Constitution has more common sense reasoning behind it than any appearing in any Atlanta paper in the last five years. Let the good people of Atlanta wake up to the plan as outlined in The Atlanta Constitution, and give it their full support. When such a program is carried out, the unemployment condition in this city will cease to be a problem.

DEWEY SMITH.  
Editor The Black Shirt.  
September 1, 1930.

## "BLACK SHIRTS" ARE CONDEMNED BY MACON CLUB

### CIVIC CLUB CALLS UPON PEOPLE OF MACON TO PREVENT SPREAD OF ORDER—MINISTER EXPRESSES OPINION

MACON Ga., Aug. 29 (AP)—The Civitan club of Macon today adopted a resolution condemning the activities of an organization it named as "black shirts". The various speakers attacked the order and called upon the white people of Macon to prevent a spread of the order.

Rev. Ed Cook, pastor of the Vineville Methodist Episcopal church south, said the organization puts fear and unrest into the minds of the negroes, and instead of remedying the present depressed condition it will aggravate the situation and cause unrest.

## "BLACK SHIRTS" TO BE INVESTIGATED

### Federal Grand Jury Action Promised Sept. 8

### HAS HEAVY PENALTY

### "Black Shirt" Organization Has Asked For Charter

Atlanta, Aug. 29 (AP)—The Constitution, quoting an unnamed official at the Federal building, says the activities of an organization recently formed here under the name of the "American Fascist Association and

Order of Black Shirts" will be investigated by the federal grand jury which convenes Sept. 8.

The official is quoted as saying evidence has been found that a number of Atlanta business firms employing negro labor have been called upon by committees from the organization who demanded that the negroes be discharged and said if the demands were not complied with trouble might be expected.

Such action, the official said, was in direct violation of a statute providing penalties up to ten years imprisonment and \$5,000 fine for persons who "conspire to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right guaranteed to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same."

The story says stenographic reports of addresses made at meetings of the "Black Shirt" organization, some of which have been "highly sensational and incendiary as to threats made," will be presented to the grand jury, along with names of some of the business firms alleged to have been called on by committees, and in some cases the names of the committeemen.

The "Black Shirt" organization has on file in Fulton Superior Court a petition for a charter, not yet acted upon, in which it sets up, among others, the purpose "to inculcate and foster in the minds of its members and the public generally, white supremacy; charity among its members; the obedience to law and order;" to "disseminate patriotism and loyalty to the government of the United States" and to "assist its members in securing employment."

### Civitans Condemn the Black Shirts

Macon, Ga., Aug. 29 (AP)—The Macon Civitan Club today went on record by formal resolution as unanimously "deploring and condemning" the organization of Black Shirts which recently had its birth in Atlanta, and now is said to be threatening an invasion of Macon.

The action of the club, a unit of national organization which has as its motto the "building of good citizenship," comes immediately following declaration by Holt Gewinner, said to be "adjutant general" of the Black Shirts, that the Macon invasion will begin Saturday.

The resolution offered by Civitan John B. Harris, calls on "all thinking men and white citizens of Macon to use all means and all influence to prevent the spread of this organization, which is so dangerous to the structure of our government."

The resolution commented that the organization "strikes at the foundation of our government and is a blow at the economic structure of our city."

Before the resolution was adopted there were many comments from various members of the club including one from Dr. Edmund F. Cook, pastor of the Vineville Methodist Church, which expressed appreciation to The Telegraph for an editorial of several days ago in which he said "the evils of the new organization" were set out.

Dr. Cook declared the organization "undemocratic" and "aimed directly at the very foundation of our government."

"It is far from a trivial thing," Dr. Cook said, as he commented further: "It may seem like a joke on the surface, but it disturbs an element in the

South which makes it a tremendously vital proposition." The minister termed it a "terrible assault," and he expressed a need for the negro in the South.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

Georgia

## 'BLACK SHIRT' HEARING WILL BE SET TODAY

*Constitution*

Judge E. D. Thomas Will Fix  
Date in Charter In-  
junction Case.

9-13-30

A hearing on an injunction suit seeking to prevent issuance of a charter to the American Fascisti or Order of Black Shirts, will be set today by Judge E. D. Thomas, of Fulton superior court, it was said Friday. A temporary restraining order signed by Judge Thomas recently was made returnable today.

Since the suit was brought by J. T. Lee seeking to enjoin the Black Shirts from obtaining a charter, the Fulton county grand jury presented to Judge Thomas resolutions urging that the charter not be granted, on the ground that "it is contrary to public policy to issue a charter to such an organization."

The grand jury resolution charged that employers of negro labor have been approached with demands that they discharge their negro help, that "such methods as are employed by this organization are inimical to the best interests of both the white and colored races." The grand jury resolutions said that "housewives of Atlanta are much alarmed at methods used to intimidate their domestic servants."

Defendants named in Lee's suit are R. A. Gordon, R. S. Gullledge, H. J. Gewinner and Walter A. Sims. Lee charged that Gewinner has usurped powers not delegated to him, and that Gewinner and Gullledge have caused a condition that is a menace to society, to the safety of the people and to law and order.

Lee alleged that Gewinner and Gullledge have changed the principles of the organization for an unlawful purpose and for principles against public policy and in violation of both federal and state laws. He charged that the defendants are trying to commercialize the name of the organization for their own monetary advantage.

## 'Black Shirt' Hearing Is Set for Tuesday

9-14-30

Whether or not the American Fascisti Order of Black Shirts, will be given a charter will be considered this week by Judge G. H. Howard, of the motions division of Fulton superior court. In calling the calendar Saturday, Judge Howard set the Black Shirt injunction suit for a hearing on Tuesday morning.

The suit was brought by J. T. Lee against R. A. Gordon, H. J. Gewinner, R. S. Gullledge and Walter A. Sims in an effort to enjoin the defendants from obtaining a charter for the organization. Following Lee's action in filing the suit, the Fulton county grand jury filed with the court resolutions asking that the charter not be granted.

### "THE BLACK SHIRT."

Well, well, Atlanta has given birth to another flim-flam scheme or skin game! Some shrewd but unscrupulous men have organized what they call the "American Fascisti," or "Black Shirts."

These men are attempting to capitalize on intolerance and race prejudice, presumably in an attempt to feather their own nests with greenbacks. Judging from their official organ, the way the lads have been flocking into the fold to be short of their pockets reveals what a fertile field Atlanta is for flim-flammers disguised as the saviors of "white supremacy."

This organization claims to be pro-"white supremacy," anti-communist and anti-Negro. In fact, they likely would be pro-anything or anti-anything that would cause the lambs to flock into the fold and the long green.

When asked what he thought of the "Fascisti" or "Black Shirts," a certain very influential and prominent citizen made this significant reply, "You can always find enough d— fools to pay for some men's d— foolishness."

The organizers of this scheme know that an appeal to intolerance and race hatred is infinitely more dangerous to the peace and safety of our city than the activities of the Reds or communists. But what do they care about that, as long as they can sell memberships at one dollar per head, and

their official organ at two dollars per year? If they can corral a hundred thousand members into this scheme of hate, they will be in a position to do an annual business of three hundred thousand dollars! Yes, indeed, this is a "get rich quick" scheme. Of course, like all other nefarious schemes, the ulterior motive is kept in the background. They come to the front with a loud appeal for "white supremacy" as if it were in danger. But it is not "white supremacy" they want. Oh, no, it is greenback supremacy! They yell a loud note ABOUT the former but they reach a long arm FOR the latter.

Such an organization as this can serve no useful purpose in a civilized community. The city authorities of Athens and Newnan immediately recognized this fact and refused to let that vulture come in to feast upon their inhabitants. Mayor Dudley of Athens said that such an anti-social, anti-racial organization, apparently set up for the personal profit of its organizers, will not be tolerated in his community. While in Newnan the mayor, the police force and the sheriff's office stood out firmly against them. Hats off to Athens and Newnan. The inhabitants of Atlanta are not near so fortunate.

It is encouraging to note that one victim of this nefarious order of flimflammers has sufficiently recovered from the hypnotic spell of the organizers to detect their fraudulent money making scheme and has obtained an injunction against them. What magic spell binders those organizers must be!

Well, "it won't be long now." The newspapers have turned the searchlight of publicity upon those schemers and their skin game while the Federal grand jury is contemplating indictments.

Now let us hope that this is the beginning of the end of their activities in stirring up the passions of racial antipathy in order to

fleece unsuspecting victims of their hard earned money.

B. C. BASKERVILLE.

## BLACK SHIRTS CANNOT SELL PAPERS IN ATHENS

Athens, Ga., Sept. 1.—(P)—Mayor A. G. Dudley issued an order today prohibiting the American fascist association or "Black Shirts," from selling its publication, "The Black Shirt," on the streets of the city.

In a statement accompanying his order the mayor said the organization "has no right to dictate to employers of labor." He said further that such "an anti-social, anti-racial organization, apparently set up for the personal profit of its organizers, will not be tolerated in the community."

The association, which has applied for incorporation under Georgia laws, sets forth as its purposes the maintenance of "white supremacy," the offering of assistance to authorities in maintaining law and order and the securing of employment for its members.

Claims have been made that the "Black Shirts" have attempted to have employers in Atlanta and other Georgia cities dismiss their employees and replace them with white workers.

Thomasville, Ga. Times-Enterprise  
Wednesday, September 3, 1930

## "ADJUTANT GENERAL" OF AMERICAN FASCIST IS HELD IN ATLANTA

Atlanta, Sept. 3 (P)—A hearing on the question of his extradition to North Carolina was in prospect today for Holt J. Gewinner, claimant of the title "adjutant general" of "The American Fascist Association and order of Black Shirts," who was arrested last night and charged with attempting to perpetrate a fraud.

After being held for a time Gewinner was released and allowed to go to a meeting of the organization.

A warrant sworn to by A. V. Corey, Greenville, N. C. attorney, charged that in September 1928 Gewinner gave Corey a draft for \$225, certifying that he had money in the bank to cover it. Officers said the draft was given Corey after an automobile accident in which cars belonging to him and Gewinner figured.

Winner last night said he was innocent of the fraud charge.

Judge E. D. Thomas of Fulton Su-

perior Court late yesterday signed a new order modifying a former decree and enjoining only the granting of a charter to Gewinner and others in a suit against leaders of the "Black Shirt" organization.

Regular business of the order, including meetings, issuance of the organization's newspaper and issuance of membership cards may be carried on under the new court decree so long as a strict account of money received and disbursed is maintained.

Dublin, Ga. Courier-Herald  
Wednesday, September 3, 1930

## Black Shirts Are Enabled to Begin Operations Again

ATLANTA, Ga. Sept. 3 (UP)—Under an alteration of a previous court ruling by Judge E. D. Thomas of Fulton superior court, the American Fascisti association and order of Black Shirts was enabled today to continue operation.

Judge Thomas explained that his original order, issued on application of J. T. Lee, disgruntled member of the order, was intended merely to restrain issuance of a charter, and was returnable Sept. 12.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph  
Sunday, August 31, 1930

## BLACK SHIRTS INVADE MACON WITH PAPERS

Eleven Members of American  
Fascisti Hawk Wares on  
Downtown Streets

## TELEGRAPH IS ATTACKED

Sell Many Papers, but No New  
Members Were "Signed  
Up", Sergeants Say

Dressed in the garments for which their organization is named, 11 members of the "Order of Black Shirts" drove down to Macon from Atlanta yesterday and, shouting their wares



on the downtown streets, sought to sell the official organ of the organization at 5 cents per copy.

Groups formed about the newshawkers, of whom there were about six. Stationed at advantageous points along the streets, men with white sergeants' chevrons on their black sleeves distributed applications for membership in the order. No new members were "signed up," however, sergeants reported.

Holt Gewinner, formerly of Macon, who now holds the title of "Adjutant General" of the society, also came here, but later went to Gordon, Ga., "on business."

The Black Shirt leaders proclaimed vocally, and through their newspapers, their plans for organization. They claimed at the end of the day to have sold several thousand copies of the "Black Shirt."

#### To Meet in Macon

Those who gathered about the propagandists to hear "all about the Black Shirts" were told that an organization meeting will be held in Macon Sept. 4 at 7 o'clock. The place for the meeting has not been decided, they said.

Those who bought copies of The Black Shirt found on the front page a reprint of an editorial from The Telegraph by W. T. Anderson attacking the order. Following the reprint, a condemnation of Mr. Anderson was displayed.

"The writer of that article is either pitifully ignorant or intentionally prefers to exploit the public for personal gain," wrote the anonymous Black Shirt. "Any newspaper that publishes a news story, much less one attacking the character and integrity of honest citizens, without making any attempt to publish the truth, should be disfranchised. There isn't a semblance of truth in the above article. The writer of that story is evidently a very poor newspaper man. It is seldom a large daily paper publishes a story without some attempt to verify the contents. Mr. W. T. Anderson's ignorance of the subject of which he writes is pitiful. He publishes the statement that Mr. Joe Wood is one of the organizers of the Black Shirts. This statement coupled with the libelous references to the organization, will probably cause considerable trouble to The Macon Telegraph, when it is learned by them that Joe Wood has absolutely no connection whatever with this organization—not even a member. And not a man in our organization knows what the word Fascist means! We note that the learned author did not attempt to give the definition."

#### Definition Given

The Black Shirt carries the definition on its front page of the same issue—"It means 'my country'." The publication continued its attack on Mr. Anderson, terming his editorial a "cowardly attack."

Mr. Gewinner yesterday afternoon explained to The Telegraph that the method of the organization in seeking jobs for white men to replace Negroes is "in a friendly way, just as a request."

He alleged that some other group, which he termed "enemies to the Black Shirts," had forged his name to an order which was presented to

a mill executive demanding the discharge of Negro workers.

#### Name Is Forged

"It nearly caused a race riot," he said, "and when I went to the mill, I was shown an order to which my name had been forged. All we want is to give the white men the jobs which Negroes are taking away from them. We do no more than request that the jobs be given the white men."

He said that an extra edition of the Black Shirt was printed yesterday exposing the alleged falsity of the news story of a possible federal indictment against the order.

"The Constitution was down on us on account of our street sales," Gewinner said, "and they pulled that story last night. There's nothing in the world to it."

Before the newsboys entered Macon, Gewinner applied to Mayor G. Glen Toole to ascertain if a license would be required for the distribution of the papers, he said. There were no restrictions, however, and the downtown streets were "worked."

Police watched the operations of the "Fascisti" from their beats on Cherry street, but no trouble was reported.

#### Albany Opposes Black Shirts

ALBANY, Ga., Aug. 30.—The Albany Herald, under the caption "Unwanted, Unneeded," has come out editorially against the new "Fascist" movement said to have sprung up recently in Atlanta and said to be designed to take jobs from blacks and give them to whites. Editor H. T. McIntosh laments the fact that "Georgia is fertile ground for giving anything better of a City Council birth to these country-saving enterprises," and calls attention to the fact they usually last long enough to enable the promoters to fatten their bank accounts," but that after they disappear the people have to continue looking "to their own government for protection of their lives, their liberties, their homes and their possessions." No effort has been made as yet, so far as has been disclosed, to form a branch of the anti-Negro society at Albany.

#### ANOTHER BLACK SHIRT MOVEMENT KILLED

Another move to strain the relations between the races and to further increase economic and political intolerance among the people was promptly quashed by the Board of Education when it refused to reconsider its allocation of the old, abandoned Walker street building for Negro education, Tuesday. The move itself was born of the Black Shirt spirit and that Christian philanthropy that invariably prevents wrong-doing in Atlanta resolutely crucified the hydra-headed monster as it did the Black Shirt insanity when it raised its spirit of communism in our city.

Think of the heartlessness of the

proposition—an old, abandoned public school building, abandoned because it is out of date and because 99 per cent of the white people following the progressive spirit of Atlanta had moved away and turned the community into a 100 per cent Negro settlement, and under these circumstances the City Council and a minority group of Negro-hating whites would prefer that the overtaxed citizens of Atlanta tax burdens be increased to build another schoolhouse for Negroes at some remote date, and the Walker street building be permitted to rot rather than for it to be turned into a Negro school building to relieve the overcrowded condition of the Negro schools. But, thanks to God, that such a spirit of race hatred and intolerance cannot live long in the midst of the Atlanta spirit. Atlanta is for all of the people, not the Black Shirts, intolerant, bolsheviks, communists or anarchists, but for all those who love the Lord and serve humanity. No other kind of people are wanted here, and if by chance they steal in, enlightened public sentiment will drive them out. Nobody expects anything better of a City Council that has been fermenting in graft and led by a mayor who is alleged to have said he did not want a Negro school in his ward—and from exposure made by the Grand Jury, the public cannot understand why he has not been indicted. But the people still have hope.

The infamy of the whole plot is divulged by the agent of the Pedigree Dairies appearing against the Race. Nobody expected any bet-

ter increase economic and political intolerance among the people was promptly quashed by the Board of Education when it refused to reconsider its allocation of the old, abandoned Walker street building for Negro education, Tuesday. The move itself was born of the Black Shirt spirit and that Christian philanthropy that invariably prevents wrong-doing in Atlanta resolutely crucified the hydra-headed monster as it did the Black Shirt insanity when it raised its spirit of communism in our city.

Let us thank God for the Inter-racial Commission, the Alexanders, They reap a rich harvest from

their members and are continuing to grow at an alarming pace. It is our desire to place white men at work, not in the place of negroes already employed, but on all jobs in the future where practicable. It is certainly not our intention to try to intimidate or force any individual or group to accede to our wishes. We hope that through the recognition of their own color that many employers will cease to employ negroes on jobs where white men could be used to a better purpose.

The editorial in The Constitution has more common sense reasoning behind it than any appearing in any Atlanta paper in the last five years.

Let the good people of Atlanta wake up to the plan as outlined in The Atlanta Constitution, and give it their full support. When such a program is carried out, the unemployment condition in this city will cease to be a problem.

DEWEY SMITH,

Editor The Black Shirt

September 1, 1930.

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#### BEST EDITORIAL IN FIVE YEARS," SAYS BLACK SHIRT JOURNAL

(From Atlanta Constitution.)

Editor Constitution: An editorial appearing in today's Constitution entitled "Aiding Business Revival" has the whole-hearted indorsement of the Black Shirt.

We have been greatly handicapped by the public lack of knowledge of our principles. The Atlanta Constitution, like hundreds of good Atlanta people, has been misled by false rumors and current untruths which have been spoken and published about us. Unauth-

orized acts, committed by outsiders, and perhaps by some over-ardent members, have caused us considerable trouble and embarrassment. Forged letters, written and if by chance they steal in, any parties unknown to us, threatening employers and demanding removal of negro employees, have placed us in disfavor with many.

Mysterious telephone calls to employers, by parties unknown to us, placed us in a serious position. We are mainly interested in fighting communism, and placing white men at work. We are not trying to stir up racial trouble, but to the contrary. The communists are trying to place rebellion in the minds of our good negroes and cause unrest and dissatisfaction among the poor white unemployed or underpaid workers. Through their incentive propaganda they reach the homes of thousands of idle people, already dissatisfied and some of them on the verge of starvation. It is an easy matter for them to take the young and make of them criminals and socialists. The communists preach social equality to the negro and place the germs of riot in his mind. They spend millions of dollars yearly to further their purposes. Their object is to cause race riots, strikes, dissension and strife among our people.

Let us thank God for the Inter-racial Commission, the Alexanders, They reap a rich harvest from

their members and are continuing to grow at an alarming pace.

It is our desire to place white men at work, not in the place of negroes already employed, but on all jobs in the future where practicable. It is certainly not our intention to try to intimidate or force any individual or group to accede to our wishes. We hope that through the recognition of their own color that many employers will cease to employ negroes on jobs where white men could be used to a better purpose.

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content on the part of the populace and then bleed the suckers to make them pay for their discontent. It has not occurred, apparently, to any of the 21,380 who have paid up, that economic problems are not settled by manifestations of prejudice; that depriving Southern Negroes of jobs is a two-edged sword that also deprives them of buying power and creates more

That the press of the nation turning "the pitiless light of publicity" upon the latest anti-Negro movement, The American Fascist Association of Black Shirts, with headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., is evidenced in a strong editorial condemnation of it, and by demands that the public repudiate it as unworthy of the South and of the Nation. The Black Shirts' avowed purpose is to replace colored with white labor in every section of the country. Every editorial in the country, every newspaper, follows in the same line. ADVERTISING: Concerning this "Fascist" organization, "The American Fascist," it is hard to speak with patience. Its promoters are evidently taking advantage of a period of economic depression to array one section of the population against another. It is hard to believe

## Press of Nation Attacks Black Shirt Movement



on the downtown streets, sought to a mill executive demanding the dis-proposition—an old, abandoned Throgers, Durhams, Foremans, their members and are continuing to grow at an alarming pace. It is our desire to place white men at work, not in the place of negroes already employed, but on cable. It is certainly not our intention to try to intimidate or force any individual or group to accede to our wishes. We hope that through the recognition of their own color that many employers will cease to employ negroes on jobs where white men could be used to a better purpose.

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also, that if the organization grows, it will confine its activities to ousting Negro workers from their jobs—jobs that they have filled faithfully and efficiently. . . . It should be branded at the start as an organization that exists for no good purpose. If it is left alone, it may grow into a real menace. If it is combated vigorously right now, it may be put down before it can get anywhere. Capitalizing Prejudice MAcon (GA.) TELEGRAPH AND NEWS—"The American Fascist is a blood brother to the Ku Klux Klan and to the Supreme Kingdom and to Essekay and all those other grandiloquent orders which have originated in Atlanta in the fertile minds of the best aggregation of sucker tappers that has ever foregathered in one place in America. All of them capitalize some particular form of prejudice. Those who are smart enough to live by their ideas watch

September 1, 1930.  
Editor The Black Shirt  
DEWEY SMITH.



Ku Klux Klan-1930

## GEWINNER UPHOLDS

### 'BLACK SHIRT' TENETS JURY ASSAILS

American Facisti Leader Denies Accusation of Race Prejudice.

9-7-30

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Holt J. Gewinner, signing himself adjutant general of the American Facisti, Order of Black Shirts, last night issued a statement reiterating the patriotic principles of the order and denying charges that the Black Shirts have ever demanded the discharge of negro employees.

Gewinner's statement follows: "Resolution passed Friday by the Fulton grand jury condemning the Black Shirts and appealing to judges in the county to deny a charter to the organization. The resolution, among other things, said that housewives of Atlanta had been alarmed over efforts of the Black Shirts to intimidate negro servants, and that manufacturers had also been approached regarding their negro workers."

Gewinner's statement said the Black Shirts "never have made a demand on a single merchant or manufacturer in the city of Atlanta or any place else that they discharge negro employees."

"We, have asked and are asking now that our good citizens, whenever they have a job open that a white man can hold, give the job to the white man, thereby assisting our movement in driving the bolsheviks from our country."

"We have affidavits filed with the solicitor's office in this county where forgers have been caught forging the writer's name to various letters and passing them out to manufacturers."

"We are the best friends the negro has ever had, and all we ask is that he stay in his place. The reason for this request is due to the literature that is being circulated among our good negroes telling them to fight for their rights, politically and socially. These documents we have in our possession."

"We fight communism, radicals and insane factions. One other thing we stand for: We do not practice and preach prejudice religiously or otherwise."

"We are giving this statement in view of the danger we see ahead emanating from the red, or communist party, who are sending white men out among the negroes attempting to stir up racial trouble."

It has been previously reported at the Federal building that the United States grand jury, which convenes

Monday, will investigate the Black Shirts. The county grand jury, in its resolution of Friday, ordered that a copy be sent to United States District Attorney Clint W. Hager.

### JURY ASSAILS

### 'BLACK SHIRTS'

### Court Urged To Refuse Charter to American Facisti in Georgia.

Charging that employers of negro labor in Atlanta have been approached with demands to discharge all negro help in their employ, the Fulton county grand jury Friday in resolutions petitioned Judge E. D. Thomas to refuse the application of the American Facisti, Order of Black Shirts, for a charter. Judge Thomas promised the grand jury that when the charter matter comes up for a hearing he will give the jury's petition every consideration.

Belief that it would be contrary to public policy for the state to issue a charter "to such an organization" was expressed in the grand jury's resolutions. "Such methods as are employed by this organization are inimical to the best interests of both the white and the colored race," the grand jury said. "The housewives of Atlanta are very much alarmed at the methods being used by the members of this organization to intimidate their domestic servants."

Friday, Judge Thomas is to hear an injunction suit instituted by J. T. Lee in an effort to prevent issuance of a charter to the Black Shirts.

It previously has been reported at the federal building that the United States grand jury would investigate the order upon convening next Monday.

An application for charter for the "Black Shirts" has been pending several days in Fulton superior court.

The resolutions of the grand jury follow:

"Resolved, that a condition in the opinion of the grand jury confronts us in which all good citizens are vitally interested. We refer to the activities of the American fascisti or 'Black Shirts.'"

"The housewives of Atlanta are very much alarmed at the methods being used by members of this organization to intimidate their domestic servants."

"Many employers of negro labor in this city have been approached by members of this organization and a demand has been made upon them to discharge all negro help in their employ."

"Be it further resolved, that such methods as are employed by this organization are inimical to the best interests of both the white and colored race. This movement has reached

such proportions as to arouse the best thinking people of Georgia who feel that many unfortunate circumstances are liable to arise and might even go beyond the control of constituted authorities. Believing that an ounce of prevention is worth several pounds of cure, we are addressing this resolution to the judges of the superior court of Fulton county with the hope that some measure of prevention might be promptly applied.

"Be it further resolved, that we believe it to be contrary to public policy for the state of Georgia to issue a charter to such an organization, and we appeal to the constituted authorities to refuse the charter to the American Facisti or the Black Shirts."

"Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be furnished the presiding judge of the superior court of Fulton county, to the Hon. Clint W. Hager, United States district attorney, to Hon. John A. Boykin, solicitor-general, and copies to the three daily newspapers of Atlanta."

The resolution is signed by John B. Smith, foreman of the jury, and attested by R. S. Barker, secretary.

### NEWNAN BALKS 'BLACK SHIRTS'

### Efforts To Hold Parade Blocked by Coweta County Sheriff.

NEWNAN, Ga., Aug. 30.—(Special.)—Informing representatives of the "Black Shirts," or "The American Facisti," who came here from Atlanta to stage a membership drive that "the people of Coweta county were law-abiding citizens and that we did not need their assistance," Sheriff B. L. Banks Friday night blocked an advertised parade of about 50 men who came here from Atlanta and refused them permission to assemble in the Coweta courthouse.

Mayor James L. Brown, Sheriff Banks said today, had previously refused the "Black Shirts" permission to use the Newnan auditorium for a meeting and made a request that the use of the courthouse be refused also.

Sheriff Banks did not know the name of the man who came here to advertise the meeting and to obtain permission for a parade.

"The man told me," Sheriff Banks said, "that he was one of the organizers of the 'Black Shirts' and that he wanted the use of the Coweta county courthouse for Friday night as speakers for his organization would

Georgia

be here.

"I immediately refused him the use of our courthouse," the sheriff said, "as I had heard about the organization and did not feel that it was best for our people."

"After refusing the use of the courthouse to the 'Black Shirts,' they made a second appeal to me, explaining that the intention of their organization was to assist the officers in enforcing the law."

"I replied to this by stating that the people of Newnan and Coweta county were law-abiding citizens and that we did not need their assistance in enforcing our laws and that I felt that we could handle any situation that arose ourselves."

Several men, some of them said to be the speakers the organizer told Sheriff Banks about, circulated literature throughout the mill villages yesterday afternoon.

About 7 o'clock a large crowd gathered around the public square to see the parade that had been promised. They waited about an hour and then went home disappointed.

All members of the police force and deputies from the sheriff's office patrolled the square after dark.

### CROWD OF 500 ATTENDS AT GRIFFIN.

GRIFFIN, Ga., Aug. 30.—(Special.)—A crowd estimated at 500 people Thursday night attended a meeting of the Black Shirts, an organization said to have originated in Atlanta, and heard R. S. Gullledge speak. It was understood that about 40 men joined the organization.

The audience was composed of probably 100 men who came from Atlanta, about 100 Griffin boys and around 200 Griffin people who went out mainly to see that an orderly meeting was conducted. The remainder of the audience appeared to be in sympathy with the speakers.

### "RESTRAINT" URGED IN COBB COUNTY.

MARIETTA, Ga., Aug. 30.—(Special.)—When representatives of the Black Shirts came here to stage a meeting a few days ago, they were advised by Judge J. M. Gann, county ordinary, to use restraint in the manner of making their appeals to Cobb county citizens to join the order. It is understood that the advice Judge Gann gave was carefully followed. Twenty or 30 people "signed up."

### Macon Civitans Rep Blackshirts'

MACON, GA., Aug. 29.—(P)—The Civitan Club of Macon today adopted a resolution condemning the objectives of the American Fascist Association, or black shirts, an organization standing for "white supremacy" which has applied for incorporation in Atlanta.

Club members in speeches declared the "black shirts" were trying to drive negroes out of jobs and replace them with white men and said that negroes were necessary to business and industry here. The club formally expressed itself as opposed to reported plans of the order to organize a chapter in Macon and

called on white residents of Macon to prevent the spread of the order.

The Rev. Ed Cook, pastor of the Vineville Methodist Episcopal Church, South, said the organization "put fear and unrest in the minds of negroes who are entitled to all the rights and privileges of American citizenship. The black shirts," he said, "far from remedying our present depressed condition will aggravate the situation and cause unrest."



# 'Black Shirts' Face Indictment by U. S.

Sensations Expected When Federal Grand Jury Here Airs Organization's Activities.

## Continued

It developed Friday at the federal building that the approaching meeting of the federal grand jury, to assemble on September 8, will have before it what perhaps will turn out to be some highly sensational developments as the result of the activities of an organization known as the "Black Shirts," organized, it is said, for the purpose, in part, to drive all negroes out of employment in Atlanta. This is held to be in direct conflict with the federal law and gossip at the federal building is to the effect that already enough evidence is in hand to bring about several indictments.

8-30-30  
The Law Quoted.

An official, quoting the following federal law, says it will be brought to the attention of the federal grand jury:

"If two or more persons conspire to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same, or if two or more persons go in disguise on the highway, or on the premises of another, with intent to prevent or hinder his free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege so secured, they shall be fined not more than \$5,000 and imprisoned not more than ten years, and shall, moreover, be thereafter ineligible to any office, or place of honor, profit, or trust created by the constitution or laws of the United States." (Revised Statutes, U. S., Sec. 5508).

The charge is made that quite a number of Atlanta business firms employing negro labor have been called upon by committees from the "Black Shirt" organization with the demand that negro labor be discharged, with the threat that, if this is not done, trouble may be expected.

It is said that the names of some of the firms on whom calls have been made will be presented to the grand jury, with the names in some instances of the representatives of the association making the demand.

### Before the Grand Jury.

Extracts from addresses made by speakers at several public meetings in Atlanta during the past few weeks

have been taken down stenographically and these reports will, it is said, be presented to the grand jury.

Some of these addresses have been highly sensational and incendiary as to threats made, it was said.

For the past several weeks, it is known that many residents of Atlanta have been greatly disturbed by the reports growing out of these meetings because of the unrest created among cooks, nurses and other domestic help.

Formal request for the granting of a charter to the organization known as the "Black Shirts" has been filed with the superior court of Fulton county, three publications of the charter already having been made. After one more publication, one of the judges of Fulton superior court will be asked to grant the charter. To which one the application will be made is not yet known.

The charter is asked for by Walter A. Sims, as attorney for R. A. Gordon, R. S. Gullledge and H. J. Gewinner.

Among other things, it asks for "the right to charge initiation fees and dues for the right to become a member thereof."

It asks further:

"The right to prescribe rules and regulations, and to form a ritual which members shall subscribe to; fix a sum for initiation fees and a sum for dues to be paid, either monthly or yearly in the discretion of the governing board or staff of said society."

"That it is the purpose of said organization to inculcate and foster in the minds of its members and the public generally, white supremacy; charity among its members, and fellowship; the obedience to law and order; the upholding of the constitution and laws of the United States and the several states thereof; the instruction of its members in the fundamental principles of free government; the combating of all influence that seeks to undermine and overthrow the principles of democracy and the republican form of government; to promote friendship and good fellowship among its members and the public generally; care for its sick; bury its dead, and do any other act of charity and benevolence which its governing board or the members or its different lodges and subdivisions may decide to do."

### ORDER CONDEMNED BY MACON CIVITANS.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 29.—(AP)—A resolution "deploring and condemning" the formation of an organization known as the "Black Shirts," which recently applied for incorporation in Atlanta as a group standing for white supremacy, was adopted today by the Macon Civitan Club.

The Civitan Club, which has as its motto the "building of good citizenship," took action after speakers denounced the "black shirt" organization, saying it would cause unrest among negroes. Members of the club charged that the "black shirts" were trying to force negroes out of their

jobs and replace them with white men.

The Rev. Edmund Cook, pastor of the Vineville Methodist church here, said the organization "put fear and unrest in the minds of negroes who are entitled to all the rights and privileges of American citizenship. The "black shirts," he said, "far from remedying our present depressed condition will aggravate the situation and cause unrest." He praised the Macon Telegraph for an editorial several days ago which, the minister said, set forth "the evils of the new organization."

Leo Sheridan, Macon businessman, said that "negroes are being run out of their jobs in Atlanta by the 'black shirts,' and that such action had been attempted here. He said the negro worker is "indispensable to our business and industrial activity."

Speakers at the luncheon said that there were reports that plans were being made to organize a chapter of the "black shirts" in Macon, and citizens were urged to discourage such an organization here.

**Black Shirt Order is Formed In Atlanta, Ga; 21,800 Joined Already**  
Employers Warned To

Discharge Negro Help

WORSE THAN KLAN

Members Plan To Make "Hard Winter" For The Race

By JOHN W. HAMMOND

ATLANTA, Georgia—Twenty-one thousand, eight hundred and thirty members in a period of three weeks at \$1 per member!

That's the real story behind the breaking out in Georgia of a new "patriotic," "America for the white man" organization which is out-klaning the Ku Klux Klan.

Lots of mystery and secrecy surround the whole thing, but there is no secret to the fact that the halls and corridors leading to the little back office of its takers-in are congested nearly all day long with throngs of young white men clamoring for "application blanks."

It is the "American Fascist Asso-

and putting white men in them. They deal largely, of course, or will do so, with unskilled employment. For instance, one of the first things to be done was to "contact" certain large firms in Atlanta; one of them reported to be a large mercantile establishment, another a large general furniture and equipment house, another a large packing concern.

These are said to have been "served with notice" to get rid of their Negro truck drivers and put white people on their trucks. The claim is made that already more than 600 places have been filled in this way.

Solely "Anti-Negro"

The next step proposed by the "Black Shirts" is to "serve notice" on the hotels in Atlanta, and follow that with similar notices to all hotels in Georgia, to get rid of all Negro bell hops and porters, and put in white men. The organization will not demand, it is understood, that a list of unemployed white men which it will fur-

with the home office and principal place of business in Atlanta, but with branches in Macon, Savannah, Columbus, and, according to reports, one about to be opened in Knoxville, and Chattanooga.

### Charter Applied For

A charter has been legally applied for, publication of notice of which has been carried in the Fulton County Reporter, a journal which circulates among the legal profession, but not strictly speaking, a newspaper of general circulation. The application was made and notice thereof published Saturday, Aug. 9. At that time there had already been a big organization meeting at the Atlanta City Auditorium, where people mostly go to attend grand opera.

Then there was another big meeting out at Grant Park, and still another in East Point. All of them were heavily attended, and much enthusiasm was worked up on the promise that the organization is going to make it hard for any Negro to find any job, and that every place now held by a Negro in Georgia will soon be held by a white man, and the wages paid will be white man's wages.

Any white man 18 years of age or over can join the "Black Shirts," provided he is native-born. In that respect it out-kluxes the original Kluxers, for they wouldn't take in Jews, Catholic or American-born citizens of foreign extraction.

This new organization is simply and solely an "anti-Negro" organization, whose purpose is admitted to be that of putting Negroes out of all jobs,

nish be used to select the employees, but will ask that its members be given preference. At least, that's the plan in the beginning anyway.

### 'Employment Bureau'

No fee is required with the application for membership, but when a membership card is issued in the applicant he is required to post a membership "fee" of \$1, which entitles him to be listed with the "Fascist-Employment Bureau," and they will undertake to find him a job somewhere as quickly as possible. This dollar fee, it is understood, is to be the only charge while the organization of 'building up,' but after the first year of existence there will be assessed "monthly dues," of 10 cents per month on each member, in order to carry the expense of the maintenance of the central office or organization.

When the first meetings were being held, particularly that one on Grant Street, J. O. Wood, former klan leader, former member of legislature, and once candidate for governor, was one of the "Fascist" officials and speakers. Information today is that Mr. Wood is now "cut", as are some of the others who were at first active in getting in the crowds.

### Former Macon Man

The official application for charter shows that the incorporators are R. A. Gordon, familiarly known in Atlanta public life as "Bob," and candidate recently for the mayoralty; R. S. Gullledge, and Holt J. Gewinner formerly of Macon. The attorney applying for the charter is Col. Walter A. Sims, former mayor of Atlanta.

At first, in fact until Saturday, the offices of the organization were at 218 Peters building, but the congestion at that place in the rather cramped hall way became such that it was necessary to move the "home office," and today it is located at 63 North Broad Street. At both places an observation of the situation disclosed a surprisingly large number of people standing in the hall awaiting an opening to get into the "office" proper.

A few days ago one of the Peachtree clothing stores in Atlanta carried a display advertisement announcing that it had just received a large shipment of black shirts "the kind you have to have to join the Black Shirts." In the window of one of the large low-price chain stores on Peachtree street today there is a complete window display of black shirts at "marked down" prices. Twice in the past two weeks numbers of young men have been on the streets in Atlanta in the simple uniform—just the ordinary clothing, but a black shirt with no coat.

### "Hard Winter" Looms

One man, who said he is a member, and who was very much impressed with the purposes of the organization, stated that "the Black Shirts are going to make pretty hard winter for Negroes in this state." He said "before Christmas there isn't going to be a black bell boy or a black truck driver in a job in Atlanta, and before the middle of next year there won't be one in a job in Georgia." His explanation was that "this is a white man's country and there are too many Negroes in jobs and too many white men out of jobs."

An interesting statement by him is that the "Fascist," which he explained Mussolini has nothing to do with, is getting up a list of the vacant farms

to fix the levy assessments and dues and to foster and inculcate the principle of white supremacy, obedience to the laws of the land, and to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Georgia.

These details are not set out in the application to the courts for a charter, however. That document describes the organization as "patriotic," with the right to assist its members in securing employment, to extend to them with tenant houses all over Georgia, and they are going to offer the Negroes an opportunity to go out in the country and rent those vacant farms and make a living if they want to. In fact, he claimed that already the "Fascist" has been able to "get the Negroes out" in at least half a dozen business places in Atlanta, and that it is "plain to see we are going to be able to do the same thing in all the







## KU KLUX PARADE WITH POLICE ESCORT

The name Ku Klux throughout the country, in a sense, is understood to mean a menace to the peace and harmony of the community where they live. Their name signifies race hatred, and religious prejudice. Their presence charges the atmosphere with a spirit of intolerance that suggests racial strife and religious enmity.

To many Colored people their presence excites fear of bodily harm and mental uneasiness. Just why they are parading the streets of Atlanta and making it a point to demonstrate their activities in the Colored districts, is a question that puzzles the Colored people generally. They paraded the Negro section of the Boulevard last Monday night under police escort, and it is reported that they invaded other sections of the city where the Negroes are segregated. What impression the Klansmen are seeking to make upon the Negroes' mind is another puzzling question. What lesson they are trying to teach them, whether they are trying to menace the happiness and contentment of the Negroes by driving through Negro settlements in darkened automobiles in bunches of fifty cars or more, is enough to disturb not only the Negro, Jew, and Catholic, but calculated to cast a fever of terrorism throughout the city.

No other secret order marches through the streets at night, and other secret orders desire that the public shall see and identify them, but the Ku Klux marches in the dark with their identity covered up with hoods and gowns, and the Colored people are becoming greatly disturbed by reason of these night marches through the community where they live. They ought not to be permitted to march through the streets unless they march as other secret orders do, with their identity exposed.

There is no politics now, no racial disturbances, and we can see no reason why the Klan should menace the peace of the community by driving through the streets in lighted automobiles.

## KU KLUX PARADE FOR ALPHAS IN ATLANTA

Delegates Wonder Whether It Was a Welcome or a Threat.

### END ANNUAL MEET

Fraternity's New History by Dr. Wesley.

ATLANTA, Ga.—The Ku Klux Klan, local branch, paraded past the James Hotel which housed delegates to the Alpha Phi Alpha college fraternity convention here this week.

Delegates wondered whether it was welcome or a threat.

The Klansmen marched under police escort, their identity hidden under masks, hoods and gowns. The parade consisted of 50 or more automobiles without lights which traversed all of the colored sections.

The convention voted to abolish the yearly and substitute a biennial meeting and also adopted the plan of regional meetings each year under the direction of the three district vice-presidents. There will be no general convention until 1931 at Ithaca, N.Y.

Officers elected were: president, B. Andrew Rose, Dayton; first-vice president, Charles W. Greene, Atlanta; second vice-president, W. S. Randolph, Richmond, 3rd vice president, W. Cardozo, Columbus; director of education, Raymond W. Cannon, Minneapolis; secretary, Joseph Evans, Atlanta; treasurer, Percival Piper, Detroit; Perry B. Jackson, Cleveland; Myles Paige, New York, and R. P. Daniels of Richmond, were elected members of the executive committee. P. B. Young, Jr., of Norfolk, Va., was elected Sphinx editor over Oscar C. Brown, Chicago. There were 72 delegates representing 28 chapters present.

Outstanding features of the convention included the continuance of the plan to award ten scholarships annually to deserving students. This year, instead of being awarded exclusively to college students, five of the ten will go to outstanding high school seniors.

Believing that its educational campaign would produce more effective

results by emphasizing newer trends the fraternity voted to change its program from one mainly interested in the going to high school and college of colored youth, to the adjustment of themselves in courses designed to meet the new needs of a more modern era.

#### New History

Special interest was aroused by the one volume history of the fraternity prepared by the well-known writer and historian, Prof. Charles H. Wesley, of Howard University, and placed on sale for the first time at this convention.

#### Cup Awards

Sigma Lambda Chapter of New Orleans, La., won both the McGhee and Balfour Cups for evidencing the most outstanding chapter activity of the year.

Although the convention was held at Atlanta, the seat of Eta Lambda Alpha Pi, Alpha Phi, and Alpha Rho Chapters, Alpha Nu Lambda Chapter of Tuskegee was joint host to the conclave. The pilgrimage on Saturday of last week to the famous Alabama school was an added feature, which included a scheduled meeting that was postponed because of unforeseen delay in the arrival of the delegates from Atlanta, a dance, a sightseeing tour, and special services in Tuskegee's famous chapel.

The public meeting in Atlanta Sunday night, December 29, was featured by addresses by Dr. Will W. Alexander, director of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, and Bishop R. E. Jones, of the New Orleans area of the M.E. Church.

## GRAND JURY TO PROBE NEGRO HOME INVASION

Several White Men Threaten Dr. J. W. Holley, Negro School Head in Albany.

ALBANY, Ga., March 5.—An investigation by members of the grand jury at the March term of superior court, which convenes here March 17, is expected to be made of the alleged visit of several white men to the home of Dr. J. W. Holley, negro president of the Georgia Normal and Industrial college, in Albany, Monday night, presumably to make an attack on the negro college head.

Sheriff Tarver stated Tuesday morning that Holley said he was awakened in his home about 8:30 o'clock last night by a man at the door who said that "Mr. Barrett Waters wanted to see him." He told the man that he had already retired for the night and he would see Mr. Waters in the morning. He returned upstairs to his bed, but was awakened a few minutes later by heavy pounding again on his front door. Holley's wife then went to the front door and

told the men that her husband was in bed and could not come out. According to Holley, the men then began to curse both him and his wife and threatened him with bodily harm should he venture on the outside. The men stayed only a few minutes on the porch and left in an automobile shortly afterward, Holley added.

The alleged attempt to "get" Holley is thought by the officers to be the aftermath of a warrant taken out here Monday morning by Holley, charging one Allen Giles, negro, with being drunk and operating an automobile while intoxicated. Holley alleged in his warrant that early Monday morning Giles drove an automobile through the college campus grounds at a reckless rate of speed, thereby endangering the lives of students going to school. Giles is said to be Mr. Waters' chauffeur, and Baker county officers were searching for him this morning, but at a late hour he had not been placed under arrest.

Mr. Waters, asked for a statement, indicated his unwillingness to issue one or "to advertise a matter of no consequence by even noticing it." No evidence that Mr. Waters was present last night has been brought out, nor has the identity of the man who used Mr. Waters' name been revealed.

## NEW FORM OF KU KLUX KLAN IN ATLANTA

Indianapolis Record

ATLANTA, Ga., July 25.—With utmost secrecy an undetermined number of men, "sovereign, white, and of true blood," are being invited to affiliate with an organization called "Caucasian Crusade," which is supported, ostensibly by seven widely known Atlantians, whose past activities and known sympathies indicate the organization is intended as a vast new edition of the Ku Klux Klan.

The seven sponsors whose names are signed to a printed letter include a founder of the Ku Klux Klan, a Georgia congressman, a former congressman and noted criminal lawyer, a veteran Atlantic editor, a physician who operates a private sanitarium, a sheriff and a wealthy undertaker.

#### Old Klan Expires

The Ku Klux Klan itself, founded with flourishing auspices eleven years ago by William Simmons, has virtually expired as a going concern because of adverse public sentiment and unfavorable publicity over the nation.

Simmons, under a contract with the Klan which was to provide him with a substantial salary for

life, sold out his contract for \$100,000. Since then the Klan has steadily declined in prestige, leaving conditions ripe for a successor organization embracing the requisite emotional attractions, yet offering fresh banners.

"Caucasian Crusade" is believed by those familiar with its organization to be ready to step into that place.

The printed letter is headed:

"Blood brother and fellow patriot: A personal friend of yours requested it, hence this letter to you. For this friend's sake, read it carefully."

#### Tells Of Purposes

The paper proceeds to describe "a great, distinctly independent, unique, and most timely nationwide movement, inaugurated and sponsored by serious minded devoted, mature, honorable men."

The purpose of the organization are catalogued thus: "To preserve and to perpetuate the white man's distinctive ideals, social supremacy and economic interest in all things; to preach and propagate original constitutional principals of correct Americanisms; to protect and to maintain our sacred "race" heritage at all hazards; to courageously and effectively oppose the rapidly rising tide of 'racial' and 'alien' political, social and industrial conquest, activities and influence in America and to counteract the mischievous machinations of the subtle but fast multiplying mongrelizing movements now so active in our midst."

More discretely worded, those tenets are substantially those advanced by the Ku Klux Klan in 1915.

### Simmons Makes Statement On Open Indorsements of 'Caucasian Crusade' Letter

Editor Constitution: If the public is entitled to and should have the facts, then let it be said: Certain newspaper reporters have not played fair in this matter, in that they have made deceptive approach to the men in question and, therefore, have perpetrated on the public untrue representations and unjustly misrepresented some good and highly reputable men, and an altogether most honorable and eminently worthy movement, sponsored by the best element of our citizenry.

The letter in question is one that no real "red-blooded" 100 per cent appreciative white man need cringe from, be ashamed of, or apologize for. And no one can find any ground of objection to it, unless he be a radical negro, a social-equality mulatto, a confederate of communism, or one in



league with or sympathetic to any or all of these. It speaks for itself without piddling, prejudice or apology, and I greatly honor and most highly esteem the men who signed it or consented for their names to be used thereto, if they have the honor and the courage to stand by the letter, its purpose and intent.

But, when all (save Dr. Small) were asked about it, they were asked if they had signed or consented to a letter gotten out by the "Caucasian Crusaders," or by an organization by that name. The general answer was, naturally "I do not know anything about the Caucasian Crusaders," or "No, I've never heard of it." Then the reporter reports that "Mr. So-and-so, repudiates so-and-so," and by such dishonorable tactics, good men are unenviably embarrassed, unjustly criticized and the public mind is poisoned with information intentionally adulterated with deception.

#### Crusaders Not Mentioned.

That letter does not mention any "Caucasian Crusaders," nor does it mention any organization by name. It is a personal letter from the men who signed it, or consented to it, to the selected man who received it, telling him of a great movement being started and asked him if he is interested to state his opinion, etc., and where and when he could be seen and be given "more light" on the matter; that if he was not interested just forget it. It is a method by which a great movement seeks to get in touch with the right kind of decent, reputable citizens and each man to whom it was sent was selected by a signer of that letter or some other of our fellowship who knew the man personally, and recommended him.

The men in question are all men of affairs, are busy, and they were approached (except Dr. Small) unexpectedly by the reporters and no explanation was made to them. They are not of the spineless kind to even think of ducking, dodging, or repudiating facts or the truth. I know that in this case they don't have to; unless they are under some voodoo spell of African influence or anti-caucasian or anti-American conjure, and they never intimated to me that they were.

The letter, a memorandum draft, that was signed, or consented to, by all the men whose names are to it, is in my possession. The letter as mailed out, and has been since the 24th of last March, is multigraphed or printed. Of course these men did not actually sign the many hundreds that were mailed out. The original draft has the respective, actual pen and ink, signature thereto affixed by each man thereof (except one) himself in person, namely: William Schley Howard, Robert Ramspeck, Sam W. Small, Dr. Frank Eskridge, J. I. Lowry and William Joseph Simmons. Mr. Ed F. Bond did not sign it at the time, because it was not available when he was asked to go on that committee; but he did consent to it heartily, commended the plan and since has had full knowledge of its liberal use without objection or protest.

The letter is an honorable one, created and circulated with full knowledge of its signers, for a most honorable and unselfish, patriotic purpose, let him deny that fact who will. Any decent, right-thinking, white man who is without prejudice or false sentiment, can indorse it and most heartily subscribe to its purpose.

No "Shyster" Methods.

I feelingly resent any insinuation of forgery on my part, or any resort to "shyster" methods as has been boldly indicated. I am not an old man yet, but I have enough age and am too well experienced and have too high a sense of honor, to even think of tampering with the other fellow's name, especially in a more or less public way, and "I just don't have to!" And the men in question, all of them men of honor and high standing, have been held up before the public as common "pikers," cowardly cringers and yellow, and 'tis this that I resent vehemently, for it is insulting to decent men.

I defy any man under high Heaven to find an iota of any kind of trickery for "private gain," "capitalizing" scheming, or any specie of profiteering whatsoever, anywhere in the entire scope of the magnificent ideals, purposes, intent, plans and programs of the white band. It is the one blood-brotherhood of the white American, and stands without prejudice, without compromise and without apology, to any man or any race of men on the whole round world. It is the one call of the white American to protect and perpetuate his holy heritage and to save his kind from the subtle but certain encroachment of communism and color. Let him cringe and skulk who will!

WILLIAM JOSEPH SIMMONS.  
The facts as to the letter referred to in the foregoing statement are concurred in and indorsed by the undersigned, the men in question.

(Signed)  
WILLIAM SCHLEY HOWARD.  
FRANK ESKRIDGE, M. D.  
ROBERT RAMSPECK.  
J. I. Lowry was not interviewed.

Statement of Dr. Small.  
When asked concerning the content of the foregoing statement, Dr. Sam W. Small said:

"I repeat emphatically that I have no recollection of having signed the letter in controversy; but, if I ever did sign it, I withdraw the signature, with no prejudice to any one whose name is on it."

**ATLANTA FORMS  
WHITE CRUSADE,  
NEW K.K.K. ORDER**  
*Baltimore, Md.*  
Ex-Klan Wizard Leader in New Anti-Negro Society.

#### LETTERS SENT OUT

White Superiority is Chief Aim of Body.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Seven well-known white residents of Atlanta, Ga., including William J. Simmons, Ku Klux

Klan Imperial Wizard, announced the formation here this week of the "Caucasian Crusade," an organization similar to the K.K.K.

Founders of the new organization include Simmons, William Schley Howard, former Georgia member of Congress; Robert Ramspeck, U.S. member of Congress and criminal lawyer; Sam Small, editor; Dr. Frank Eskridge, physician; James I. Lowry, sheriff; and Edward F. Bond, undertaker.

#### Letters Sent

Letters announcing the new organization were sent out to "sovereign, upright white men of true blood."

Purposes of the organization are listed as follows:

"To preserve and to perpetuate the white man's ideals, social supremacy and economic interest in all things;

"To preach and propagate original constitutional principals (sic) of correct Americanism;

"To protect and to maintain our sacred 'race' heritage at all hazards;

"To courageously and effectively oppose the rapidly rising tide of racial and alien political, social and industrial conquest, activities and influence in America, and,

"To counteract the mischievous machinations of the subtle, but fast multiplying mongrelizing movements now so active in our midst."

The letter concludes by urging that the information in it be kept strictly confidential, the questionnaire filled out and quietly mailed.

#### "CAUCASIAN CRUSADE"

STARTED IN GEORGIA — OLD KLAN GROUP WITH NEW NAME ASKS MEMBERS IN ATLANTA

Atlanta, Ga., July 21, 1930:—With the utmost secrecy an undetermined number of men, "sovereign white and of true blood," are being invited to affiliate with an organization called "Caucasian Crusade," which is supported, ostensibly by seven widely known Atlantans, whose past activities and known sympathies indicate the organization is intended as a vast new edition of the Ku Klux Klan.

The seven sponsors whose names are signed to a printed letter include a founder of the Ku Klux Klan, a Georgia congressman, a former congressman and noted criminal lawyer, a veteran Atlantic editor, a physician who operates a private sanitarium, a sheriff, and a wealthy undertaker.

More discretely worded, tenets of the new organization are substantially those advanced by the Ku Klux Klan in 1919.

#### Tells of Purposes

The paper proceeds to describe "a great, distinctly independent, unique, and most timely nation-wide movement, inaugurated and sponsored by serious minded, devoted, mature, honorable men."

The purposes of the organization are

catalogued thus: "To preserve and to perpetuate the white man's distinctive ideals, social supremacy and economic interest in all things; to preach and propagate original constitutional principals of correct Americanisms; to protect and to maintain our sacred 'race' heritage at all hazards; to courageously and effectively oppose the rapidly rising tide of 'racial' and 'alien' political, social and industrial conquest, member of Congress and criminal activities and influence in America, lawyer; Sam Small, editor; Dr. Frank Eskridge, physician; James I. Lowry, sheriff; and Edward F. Bond, multiplying mongrelizing movements now so active in our midst."

More discretely worded, these tenets are substantially those advanced by the Ku Klux Klan in 1919.

A "CAUCASIAN CRUSADE," with the notorious William Joseph Simmons and Congressman Robert Ramspeck of Georgia among its sponsors and Atlanta as its headquarters, is the latest progeny of Ku Kluxism to be spawned in the sultry South. The invitation to enrol exudes all the old hokum about perpetuating "the white man's distinctive ideals, social supremacy, and economic interest,"

"courageously and effectively" opposing "the rapidly rising tide of 'racial' and 'alien' political, social, and industrial conquest, activities, and influence in America," and counteracting "the mischievous machinations of the subtle but fast multiplying mongrelizing movements now so active in our midst." The recipient of the invitation, if he can qualify as "a real, red-blooded white American inside and out" (bring on the X-rays and blood tests), is besought to answer and "quietly mail" such questions as "are you a sovereign, upright white man of true blood?" and "are your sympathies and sentiments wholly favorable to the full maintenance of white supremacy in all things?" By way of giving the affair an appearance of respectability, the sucker is

also asked if he is a man of "acceptable reputation and lawful occupation." The financial obligation and, of course, the commission for the promoters and officers-to-be are not stated, but the former will doubtless be made known in due time.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

Illinois.

## NEW YORK HERALD

AUG 18 1930

### De Priest Is Burned in Effigy At Klan Meeting at Chicago

CHICAGO, Aug 17 (UP).—Oscar De Priest, Negro Republican Representative from the First Illinois District, was burned in effigy last night as a climax to an all-day picnic of Ku-Klux Klansmen and their families at Santa Fe Park, southwest of Chicago, near Willow Springs.

The ceremony was preceded by a parade of 300 Klansmen in full regalia before a crowd estimated at 2,000. Hiram W. Evans, Imperial Wizard of the organization, was present at the picnic but did not speak.

## BROOKLYN CITIZEN

AUG 19 1930

### Klansmen Burn Colored Congressman in Effigy at Rally



At a picnic rally on the outskirts of the city of Chicago, three hundred Klansmen in full regalia, burned in effigy, Congressman Oscar De Priest, and by the light of the flames, held meeting during which other business was discussed. Klansmen are seen here during solemn ceremony which attended the burning of the colored congressman.



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

Indiana

# FIERY CROSS IS BURNED AT RESTHAVEN

Reporter

Monday Night Demonstration At Little Colored Settlement Is Laid To Ku Klux Klan 6-30

MONTICELLO, Ind., Sept. 5.—Residents of ~~Frederick~~ *Frederick* lake, a recently established Negro resort, south of this city, were terrorized late Monday night when a group of white men variously estimated at 350 said to have been members of the order of the Ku Klux Klan, staged an anti-Negro demonstration for the purpose of frightening Negro property holders away from their homes.

Eye Witnesses declare that two heavy charges of dynamite were exploded by the alleged Klansmen in a field near the resort site known as Resthaven. The burning of a fiery cross was a principal feature of the protest demonstration which lasted several hours.

Only two families were at the resort when the hundreds of adherents of the hooded organization descended upon the little Negro settlement out of the darkness of the night and staged their protest demonstrations.

No one was injured as a result of the demonstration and no property damage resulted, it is said.

For several months, protests have been made at intervals by white citizens of the section against the idea of colored people establishing themselves at the resort.

Colored people at the Resthaven resort are banding themselves together for the purpose of protecting themselves against any trouble which the Klan may start at a later date.

These people feel that they are not only law abiding citizens but regular tax payers and lawful owners of their Resthaven property. They say it is their intention to protect their property from which they are not going to budge an inch in spite of the Klan or any other organization of its kind.

One Resthaven property holder remarked that certain organizations are trying to drive colored people from the face of the earth."

The impertinence, he said, springs from the preposterous belief that they own the world in which no one else has a right to live.

In the meantime everything is as quiet as usual at Resthaven, where the citizens are not the least disturbed over the recent fiery cross burning episode.



# Klan Head Urges Repeal of the 15th Amendment

ST. LOUIS, July 18.—Disfranchisement of our citizens throughout the United States through repeal of the 15th amendment to the Constitution was advocated by Hiram W. Evans, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, in a speech here on July 10. The race question is serious in industrial centers, Evans said. In the South literature is being distributed advocating social as well as civic equality for our people, the southerner thundered.

## KLAN HEAD OPPOSES ELECTION OF MOORE

Imperial "Wizard" and DePriest Speak at Same Time in St. Louis.

### DYER UNDER FIRE

Argus Claims He Profits by K.K.K. Help.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The campaign of Walthall M. Moore for the Republican nomination for Congress against L. C. Dyer, white, present incumbant, brought to St. Louis last week the imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan and also Congressman Oscar DePriest.

Congressman DePriest, who spoke before a large audience in Tabernacle Baptist Church for 50 minutes, declared that the only way the St. Louis colored people would get anything would be to take it.

He urged the community to organize, register and vote in the coming election. "You only get what you can take," he said.

### Klan Leader Appears

The imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan who paid this city a visit at the same time, said that he appeared not only to oppose Mr. Moore's candidacy for Congress but to warn the people of Missouri that they must use their influence to help disfranchise the Negroes throughout the whole country by the repeal of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

The St. Louis Argus reported that the Klan leader brought with him \$20,000 to be used in the district to defeat Mr. Moore. The Argus also charged that whether or not Mr. Dyer was responsible for the Klan's entrance into the campaign, Dyer alone

will profit by it.

The Argus points out that Dyer has not repudiated the Klan although he has been campaigning vigorously for colored votes.

### Moore Speaks

Walthall Moore in his speech before a crowded mass meeting last week said:

"I challenge Mr. Dyer to show that he has done as much for the colored people as I have been able to do right here in the State Legislature. I challenge him to show one bill he has sponsored for the benefit of colored people which has become a law."

Representative Dyer sponsored the anti-lynching bill in Congress which passed the House but which was unable to get through the Senate.

More in his address said:

"It is easy enough to introduce bills and get them through the lower house of a legislative body, but they have to be followed. Where was Mr. Dyer when his anti-lynching bill was being considered by the United States Senate?"



## Ku Klux Klan - 1930

St. George, S. C., Record  
Thursday, August 21, 1930

### UNMASKED.

At the campaign meeting at Grover, a Democrat asked a very mouthy young D. R. L. voter to be fair and stop trying to interrupt Judge Hutchinson in his speech. The young D. R. Lian said: "You must not be a member of the Klan." "No, I do not belong, but my father was a member in the days when gentlemen joined." He was referring to the Klan which saved the South from Negro domination, a very different organization from the present Klan, whose formation made a rich man of its founder, W. J. Simmons.

The glamor of the traditions of that reconstruction period Klan caused tens of thousands of men to join the Simmons Klan. In South Carolina are several thousand men who joined the present Klan and very quickly withdrew from membership when they found out its purposes, or, in many locals, the class of men with whom they would have to associate. Organizers getting so much per head for members were not at all particular in soliciting, but accepted practically every prospective member who could dig up the joining fee. There are probably thousands in this state who never attended more than one meeting. There are no better citizens in South Carolina than the vast majority of the men who joined the Klan with the purest of motives and withdrew when they found out what they had gotten into. That is a sufficient commentary upon the present Klan.

When the law forbade Klansmen to wear robes and masks, it crippled the activities of those who were using the Klan for their own purposes. In view of what the last two campaigns in this county have been with the Klan unmasked, it certainly is a God's blessing that the South Carolina legislature passed that unmasking and disrobing act. If the Klan in this county fail to control this year's election it probably will quickly become merely an unsavory memory of the past.

South Carolina.

## Ku Klux Klan - 1930.

Dublin, Ga. Courier-Herald  
Tuesday, October 28, 1930

### Blackshirts Try Enter Tennessee

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 28 (UP)—The J. O. Wood faction of the American fascist, order of Blackshirts, banned from operating under that name in the state of Georgia, has come to Tennessee in an effort to gain a new foothold.

Wood conducted an organization meeting at Alton Park, Chattanooga suburb, last night, after his application for use of public school buildings for that purpose had been denied by city authorities here.

Opposition to the advent of the Blackshirts in the Chattanooga area was raised Monday by the Chattanooga News, which said in an editorial:

"Chattanooga has no room for such an organization, the foundation of which is encouragement of racial prejudice. The south needs justice not prejudice in race relations."

Greenville, S. C. Post-Courier  
Tuesday, October 28, 1930

## U. S. FASCISTI IN TENNESSEE

Ousted From Georgia, Now  
Seek New Territory;  
Newspaper Fights Them

By the United Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Oct. 28 —The J. O. Wood faction of the American Fascisti, order of Blackshirts, banned from operating under that name in the state of Georgia, has come to Tennessee in an effort to gain a new foothold.

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"Chattanooga has no room for such an organization, the foundation of which is encouragement of

racial prejudice. The South needs justice, not prejudice in race relations."

Tennessee



Klu Klux Klan - 1930

Virginia  
6

## VIRGINIAN-PILOT NORFOLK, VA.

JAN 10 1930

# KLAN PASSES OVER NEGRO BEACH PLAN

## Mass Meeting Devotes Discussion To Means of Rehabilitating Organization

Contrary to expectations the mass meeting of Klansmen, held last night in Klan quarters at Market and Brewer streets, took no action on the proposal of the City Council to establish a bathing beach for Negroes on Chesapeake Bay, near Little Creek. Not only was no action taken, it was stated after the meeting, but the matter was not brought up for discussion.

The call, issued by the "Great Giant" of the organization through the press, was an invitation to Klans Nos. 3, 16, 104 and 100 to meet with Klan No. 125 in the latter's hall. Between 50 and 60 members of the organization answered the call and attended the meeting. The session was devoted chiefly, it was announced afterwards, to a discussion of means for rehabilitating and renewing interest in the organization, the activities of which have dwindled considerably in this section in the past year or two. Particular stress was said to have been laid upon the necessity of members paying up back dues in order to keep the Klan in a "going concern" condition.

## No Action Is Taken Against Men Who Kidnapped Prince

HERNDON, Va.—(CNS)—Prince Bullano Cetwayo, a native African said to be a grandson of a noted Zulu chief. Chet, on invitation made an address before the pupils of Herndon High School and incidentally told the students that from conditions in this country he was led to believe that instead of Americans sending missionaries to Africa, the Africans should send them to America.

This incidental remark so upset the "good white people" of Herndon and vicinity that they at once proceeded to prove that the Prince was right in his remark.

On last Tuesday night a crowd of some twenty kidnapped him and deposited him on the steps of the home of W. T. Woodson, divisional superintendent of Fairfax County Schools who had given him permission to speak to the pupils. The group of kidnapers, organized at a drug store, lured him outside and then carried him by auto to Woodson's home.

The African was told not to return to Herndon, but he was not injured or mistreated, he told Woodson.

Superintendent Woodson said, "Prince Bullano is a very intelligent and interesting person who bears endorsements of the British embassies and numerous school and university officials that he was an Oxford graduate."

Prince Cetwayo has been in the United States for several years and has lectured extensively without any molestation heretofore.

The sheriff of Fairfax County refused to take any action against the white rowdies.